



**GUIDE**  
to the  
**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS**  
in the  
**WORCESTER**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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Boston, Massachusetts  
THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
Division of Community Service Programs  
Work Projects Administration  
1941

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Prepared by  
The Historical Records Survey  
Division of Community Service Programs  
Work Projects Administration

\* \* \* \*

Boston, Massachusetts  
The Historical Records Survey  
1941

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## PREFACE

"To bring together the records of the past and to house them in the buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men living in the future, a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its people so to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment for the creation of the future," President Roosevelt has said.

The purpose of the Historical Records Survey of the Work Projects Administration is to survey, preserve, and render accessible historical source materials of all kinds. The work of the project is divided into the following main classifications: Public records, private manuscripts, church records, and early American portraits. Copies of the publications of the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey are distributed to prominent libraries throughout the nation and to the larger and more centrally located libraries in Massachusetts.

Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Worcester Historical Society is one of a series of inventories and guides to manuscript collections issued by the Historical Records Survey in Massachusetts. Earlier publications are listed at the end of this volume. Forthcoming publications in the field of manuscripts include a calendar list of the Abby Kelley Foster papers, and a Guide to Manuscript Collections in Massachusetts (outside Boston).

This volume is designed to provide a guide to the manuscript collections deposited in the Worcester Historical Society. It is not presented as an exhaustive study nor as a complete description of every individual manuscript in any systematic arrangement of style. The method used of describing the more than 25,000 manuscript items falls within the division of the physical arrangement. Papers belonging to individual families have been treated as collections and are described in Part I of this guide as Family Collections. The largest of these collections are the Adams, Beaman, Conant, and Miller papers. Of no less importance but smaller, are the Sumner, Goffe, Stephen and Abby Kelley Foster, and the Merriam papers. It may be noticed that more space has sometimes been given to the description of small collections of papers than to those of greater bulk. Upon examination, however, it will be observed that a large collection may be composed chiefly of one type of material, while a smaller one may be composed of miscellaneous papers covering many types and subjects; the materials may be included within the life span of an individual and may be very brief, or they may cover papers of members of several successive generations of a family; the records may refer to one business, or, as in the Beaman collection, cover important events relating to the incorporation and growth of several towns in which members of the family served as officers. Part II records, by groups, material pertaining to Worcester, its citizens, and its associations; to individual towns and cities within Worcester County; to Massachusetts towns and cities outside Worcester County; and to New England states by locality. This grouping follows the system used by the Society.

Two large collections of manuscripts are entirely separate from the papers described in the preceding sections: military papers and the Natural History Society collection. The military papers are in addition to any listed among the family collections or referred to by locality. The Society has on exhibition, framed and in glass cases, about 100 manuscripts, and these have been listed in chronological order in the Appendix, since they have not apparently been considered as belonging to any specific group.

In describing the quantity of a manuscript collection, the term "volume" is used to connote bound manuscripts; "piece" means an unbound manuscript; "item" is used to include both terms. Parentheses about dates indicate life-spans. Arrangement of Part I is alphabetical by family name; in the descriptions of collections, chronology is observed so far as practicable.

This volume was compiled and edited by Mrs. Ethel L. Wood of the Boston office. Material was gathered by the manuscripts unit of the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey, under the direction of William S. Piper, Supervisor of the Worcester district, and it was prepared in accordance with instructions and procedures issued by the Washington office of the Survey. The cover for this volume was designed by Maurice R. Wheeler, and the mimeographing was in charge of Marcus Louis Haffer.

The Survey is indebted to the officers of the Worcester Historical Society for their cooperation, and to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Frederic W. Cook, without whose sponsorship this project would not be possible.

Mary Elizabeth Sanger  
State Supervisor  
Historical Records Survey



## FOREWORD

Four men met on the evening of January 23, 1875, at the home of Samuel E. Staples and agreed that an organization was needed in Worcester that would preserve material and knowledge relating to the early history of the city. They were ordinary citizens untrained as archivists, historians or collectors, nor were they wealthy. The local directory listed them as agent, student, grocer, and furniture repairer, but what they lacked in experience and funds was offset by their enthusiasm. By 1877, they had gathered around them enough interested friends to incorporate under the name of the "Worcester Society of Antiquity" with 37 charter members. Among the objects set forth in the certificate of incorporation were "cultivating and encouraging among its members a love and admiration for antiquarian research and archaeological science; and, so far as possible, to rescue from oblivion any historical matter that might otherwise be lost; also, the collection and preservation of antiquarian relics of every description."

The first small quarters were soon outgrown owing to the zeal of the members as collectors. The gift of land and a substantial sum of money from Stephen Salisbury in 1891 made possible the erection of the building, still occupied by the Society, which long ago became inadequate for the proper housing of the great amount of material gathered. In 1919, the name was changed to the "Worcester Historical Society." The Society now has about 400 members.

The Society has never specialized in any field. The museum contains many thousand articles and pictures showing in a material way the development and customs particularly as they relate to central New England. The library shelves about 50,000 volumes, one section being devoted to the works of Worcester authors. The manuscript collection of about 25,000 pieces is now in condition to be of easy access to research workers. For this we are indebted to the Historical Records Survey of the Work Projects Administration, the compilation and systematic filing being the work of the Supervisor of the local area who is one of our members.

The Society publishes annually its Proceedings. From time to time, brochures on local history prepared by its members are printed. For several years the particular activity of the Society has been a series of classes in local history conducted by the Executive Director. The classes are composed of high and grade-school pupils under the sponsorship of the school authorities. The classes are scheduled by groups and part of an afternoon is spent in the museum after which the Director gives a talk on the history of the city which, in turn, is followed by a question period. The average monthly attendance during the present season has been about 200 different children.

With the ever-present thought that the new of today becomes the antique or the history of tomorrow, the Society continues the discriminate collecting of material in all its fields. Accessions are through contribution as the Society's funds do not permit it to enter competitive markets.

ZELOTES W. COOMBS, President  
Worcester Historical Society



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# GUIDE TO THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

## IN THE

## WORCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Part I

#### Family Collections

ADAMS COLLECTION, 1806-86. 1,416 items.

Twenty-two account books of Dr. Charles Adams (1782-1875) who practiced medicine in Antrim, N. H., Oakham and North Brookfield, Mass., 1807-53. His son, Charles (1810-86), was very active in North Brookfield town affairs and in state and national politics, with no small reputation as a genealogist, historian, and public speaker.

Manuscripts in the collection of Charles Adams, Jr. consist of: Addresses written and delivered by Adams: Early Town Meeting Places, 1864; Sabbath School Anniversary, 1868; Tavern Keepers, 1870; Life of Robert Burns, 1873; Centennial Address at Antrim, N. H. 1877; North Brookfield Choir, 1881; Former Life and Manners, 1883; Old Oakham Days, 1883; Old and New New England Customs, 1883; North Brookfield, 1884; and short papers on various historical subjects, 1868-86. One large bundle of family and business letters, 1833-45; personal letters, 1872-86; letters relative to biographical notes and Brookfield history, 1879-83; letters from Henry E. Waite of Boston to Mr. Adams relative to history of North Brookfield, 1879-84. Historical and genealogical notes, 1872-86; notes concerning Antrim, N. H. residents, 1876-80; material collected while preparing sketch of North Brookfield, 1880-84; papers concerning Adams' appointment as town clerk, 1836-46; representative, 1851, 1852, 1862; justice of the peace, 1852-86; member of National Republican Committee, 1864; state senator, 1865-66, 1877-78; councillor, 1867-68, 1879-80; state treasurer, 1871-75. The following records are in the hands of Adams: Minutes of meetings, North Brookfield Lyceum, 1831-36, 96 pp. Deaths in Oakham, 1836-82, 50 pp.; acquisition book, 1864-65, 4 pp. and ledger, 1866, 104 pp. of North Brookfield Historical Society; description of stones in Old Burial Ground, West Brookfield, 1881; Births, Marriages and Deaths in North Brookfield, n. d.; book of notes compiled for North Brookfield town history, n. d.; cemetery records in North Brookfield, n. d.

BEAMAN COLLECTION, 1728-1866. Approx. 3000 items.

The Beaman collection is mainly that of Ezra Beaman (1736-1811) and his son Ezra (1770-1863). These two were very prominent men of their day in Shrewsbury, Boylston, and West Boylston. The father was an officer of the militia and later had a distinguished record in the Revolution beginning with the Bunker Hill fight. The items refer principally to Shrewsbury and Boylston

BEAMAN COLLECTION cont'd

town affairs; the incorporation of the towns of Boylston and West Boylston; the business enterprises of the family as inn holders, millers, storekeepers, and investors; and to the public life of Ezra, Sr. and his son as town officials and as active participants in the organization and building of churches and schools.

Church papers consist of the account of the controversy over the hiring of the Rev. Joseph Avery, of the church at Holden, and records of meetings and baptisms at this church, 1773-74; 18 papers relate to the incorporation expenses and support of the meetinghouse in the western part of Boylston, 1792, together with pew deeds, plans, church books, receipts, and church papers, 1793-1860; and 92 papers relating to the organization, building, preaching accounts, minutes of meetings, sale of pews, and sermons of the First Liberal Church in West Boylston, 1830-60. Correspondence of a personal nature was carried on by Ezra Beaman, Sr. and his son with the following: C. W. Harris, Holden, 1779; Jonathan Warner, Boylston, 1782 (copy); John Bacon, Boston, 1784; Jabez Beaman, Boston, 1784; Benjamin Gale, Shrewsbury, 1785; James H. Leatherbee, Boston, 1799; Israel Atherton, Lancaster, 1800; John Prentiss, Lancaster, 1806; Samuel Anderson, 1807; Samuel Dickinson, Amherst, State representative, 1809; William Caldwell, Worcester, 1809; Phebe Farr, 1813; Daniel Howe, Westminster, 1815; Thomas F. Blood, 1815; John Ballard, Lancaster, 1819; Josiah Flagg, Lancaster, 1822; Luther Allen, Sterling, 1826; Silas Holman, Bolton, 1836; Charles A. Mirick, Princeton, 1841; Mrs. Robert Rogerson, Boston, 1846-49; E. W. Bigelow and Caroline E. Howe, 1848; F. R. Palmer, Townsend, Vt., 1851; Maynard King, Geneseo, Ill., 1853; Seneca Miller, West Brattleboro, Vt., 1854; Elias Davis, Geneseo, Ill., 1857-58; Joel Fletcher, West Leominster, 1860; besides business letters with Pliny Earle and brothers, Leicester, concerning a machine for carding wool by water power and the possibility of putting one in Beaman's Mill, 1803; a lengthy correspondence with Samuel Slater of North Providence regarding the establishment of a factory and bleachery on Beaman's property, and arranging to purchase the water rights, buildings, and land from Ezra Beaman for \$4,000, 1806-18; terms of an agreement with Robert Parkinson [of England] to whom Beaman is to deed a mill with water rights, for \$5,000, to be used as a cotton factory, 1809, which Parkinson later deeds to John Slater & Co., 1812; paper giving privileges to John Slater & Co. to erect and operate a mill, 1815. There are court records of Inferior [Inferior] and Supremer [Superior] court sessions at Worster [Worcester], 1777; summons to Ezra Beaman to give evidence in case of Oliver Barnes vs. Daniel Harris, 1793; writ of attachment on goods or person of James Hart, schoolmaster, of Newmarket, N. H. 1795; summons to Joseph Cheney, blacksmith of West Boylston, vs. Jonathan Plimpton, yeoman re real estate transactions, 1817; writ of attachment on Jabez Bigelow and Solomon Parsons, traders, both of Worcester, against John Hammond, yeoman, for breach of contract, 1839. Seventy-five deeds of land in Lancaster, Shrewsbury, Boylston, and West Boylston belonging to the Beaman family, 1728-1866, together with those from Daniel Greenleaf, Bolton, to Jabez Beaman, 1745/6; Mephibostheth Bixby, Shrewsbury, to Jabez Beaman, 1750/1; Joseph Dinsmoor, Lancaster, to Ezra Beaman, Shrewsbury, 1775; and Joel Sawtell and wife, Dinah, Warren, R. I. to Calvin Winter, Boylston, 1813. Military papers consist of a receipt for "new Emission" in full by Aaron Sawyer, Shrewsbury, for his part of the hire of one Continental man for three years in "clas" to which he belonged in Lancaster, 1781; request of Luther Rice to John Avery, Secretary of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, that Ezra Beaman pay amount due Rice for services "at close of



the war in the American service in Col. Crane's regiment of artillery in Capt. Seward's company in the Massachusetts line", 1790; part of a summons for John Sullen of Hardwick, to appear at the inn of Elijah Lyman to testify in case of Moses Harris and ten others against Isaac Powers, 1794; application of Abigail Waite for a pension in 1843, certifying that her late husband served as a private in the Revolution under Capt. Thomas Nixon of Southborough and Captain Gleason of Framingham in the years 1775-76 and about half of 1780, and that he also fought at Bunker Hill. There are isolated items concerning the construction and upkeep of schools, 1746-1809; an unsigned report of committee to settle accommodations in the several school squadrons in Boylston; plan of new schoolhouse to be erected, statement of cost of building, and a credit for the old school house sold to Jonas Temple, 1790; list of timber to be furnished by Sawyer for school house, 1791; list of materials furnished by individuals and material bought for the school house, 1797; record of school committee of Boylston, showing estimated cost of "keeping school by Joel Howes", also a list of the names of "Committee for examining", 1801; list of forty items against which are various names and amounts "for the Schoolhouse North of the River by Esq. Beaman's", 1809.

Besides the many loose business accounts, the collection has a separate group of volumes kept and written by four members of the Beaman family. The single papers are accounts, bills, and receipts, such as carried by a farmer and inn holder, 1757-1865, 254; and 96 similar papers with names other than Beaman as follows: the Rev. Mr. Fairbanks, Shrewsbury, 1783; Reuben Wilder, Lancaster, 1787; Capt. Joseph Bigelow, 1788; Robert Andrews, 1792; Aaron White to John Temple, 1811; Calvin Maynard to G. P. Brown, 1811; Nathaniel Bayley, 1812; Patience Hastings to Abijah Drury, 1812; Josiah and W. M. Steadman, Boston, 1818; Bardwell and Hoag to Dennis Keyes, 1818; John Houghton, tax collector of the town of Sterling, 1863. The earliest volume is that of John Beaman His Book, 1711, then follows an account book of Jabez Beaman, Shrewsbury, 1742-52. Records kept by Ezra Beaman, Sr. embrace 13 day books and journals of store, tavern, mill, and miscellaneous accounts, 1754-98; 5 account books of lumber, store, and tavern accounts, 1784-1808; ash books 1784-1814, [the Beamans dealt in hard wood ashes collected locally and shipped to soap works in Boston]; store and tavern ledgers, 1786-1811; account book for building Second Parish meetinghouse, 1793-1817; and a saw book, 1804. The group of volumes in Ezra Beaman Jr.'s collection consists of 3 composition and spelling books, 2 in 1785, 1 in 1787; 11 day books and journals of current and miscellaneous accounts, 1816-53; 4 saw books of material sawed and miscellaneous items, 1839-43; 3 books containing estate records, 1811-13, 1863, 1863-65; 2 weighing books, 1840-41, 1847-48; labor book, 1813-15; and a bound copy of state, town and county taxes for 1819. Volumes under the joint authorship of Ezra Beaman and Ezra Beaman Jr. cover: Day book and journal of current sales, accounts, and records of orders, 1795-96; record of all orders upon them as treasurers of Boylston, Holden, Sterling and West Boylston, 1797-1814; day book of current accounts to June, 1811 and notes by Ezra Beaman, Jr. of payment in settlement of father's estate, 1811-13; cash book, 1804-12, which also contains the docket of the court of common pleas of Worcester County from August 1808 to October 1812; miscellaneous notes relating to personal, precinct and town affairs, 1804-17; account book of grain sent to Harthan mill, 1809-10, and records of employees' work, 1818.

## Beaman Collection cont'd

Ezra Beaman, Sr. died June 4, 1811 aged 75 years, and his son Ezra Beaman, Jr. was appointed one of the administrators of his estate. Papers relating to the settlement of this estate consist of appraisal of household effects, 1811; note of payment of sum of money to Mrs. Beaman, 1811; an account of services in "appraising and distributing real estate" of said deceased by Silas Holman, James Longley, and Jotham Bush, 1811; 238 statements and receipts regarding money expended in behalf of the Beaman estate, 1811-16; a list showing distribution of personal estate among various heirs, by Ezra Beaman, Jr., administrator, 1811; receipt to Mary and Ezra Beaman from Capt. Elijah Goodnow in settlement for judgment, 1812; state of one-third interest in estate, evidently Mrs. Beaman's share, 1812; an account of expenses incurred by Jabez Beaman including repairs and maintenance of grist mill, board for 42 weeks, and funeral expenses, 1812; notes of settling accounts with Mrs. Beaman, with Capt. Elijah Goodnow, 1812-13; receipt from Artemas Mardock to estate of Jabez Beaman, for making a coffin [coffin], 1812; release from all further claims against Ezra Beaman's estate, from estate of Francis Bigelow of Boston, 1812; receipt from Silas Holman and others for services in settling estate of Jabez Beaman, 1812; receipt to Josiah Hadley from Beaman estate, 1814; note due Ezra Beaman estate by John Temple, 1815; and a promissory note from Silas Dunsmoor, to Ezra Beaman, Jr., administrator, 1816.

A large portion of this collection consists of papers relating to the towns of Shrewsbury, Boylston, and West Boylston, wherein the two Beamans served in many official capacities, first in the mother town of Shrewsbury, then in Boylston and West Boylston as each was later set off. The Shrewsbury papers consist of: Receipts to selectmen of Bolton for boarding the schoolmaster, 1745; receipt for excise tax from Province of Massachusetts Bay, 1764; list of 16 persons assessed for repairing No. 2 squadron schoolhouse, 1768; notice to Ezra Beaman of meeting at which David Taylor, treasurer, transmits his office to his successor, Robert Holland, 1772; warning to inhabitants of Shrewsbury to send list of ratables to assessors, 1772; 86 promissory notes given by Ezra Beaman, Sr. and Ezra Beaman, Jr. 1773-1851; a petition by Ezra Beaman and 28 others that South Lancaster be set off from Lancaster and annexed to Shrewsbury, 1779; list of 14 names with amounts assessed, 1781; list of 19 bounty notes with interest on same, 1781; 4 receipts for excise tax on liquor and highway tax to Ezra Beaman, 1782-84; notice of assessments on inhabitants of 2nd precinct, signed by Ezra Beaman, treasurer, 1783; assessor's warrant for £95.13s.6<sup>d</sup>. has been committed to Ameriah Bigelow, tax collector, and ordered paid by him to Ezra Beaman, treasurer, after deducting £70 to be paid Rev. Eliazer Fairbanks as salary, 1783; committee of 2nd precinct notifies all inhabitants to meet at the meetinghouse to transact precinct business, 1784; appraisal of real estate of Samuel Estabrook for four heirs, Holden, 1784; 2 lists of jurors for the supreme court and for the court of common pleas, 1786; notice that taxes have been levied by assessors, £70 of the sum realized to be paid Rev. Eliazer Fairbanks for salary, 1786; notes of expense "that Joel Chase was at in the action with Caleb West", including fees of court, damages, and 2,000 miles travel, 1786; letter from selectmen of Boylston to Joseph Allen, clerk of court at Worcester, accompanying a return of votes from Boylston for the treasurer of Worcester County, 1786.

Boylston, the 2nd precinct, or North Parish, of Shrewsbury, 1742-86, became a town March 1, 1786, and among the Beaman papers are found records of the



town's various offices as follows: Assessors: 30 notices sent to the town treasurer, calling for assessment for state, county, town, highway and parish taxes with lists of individuals so taxed, 1791-1838. Highway surveyors: Plans and surveys in Shrewsbury, 1772-99; account of expenses by John Peirce while surveying in town of Boylston, 1792; report of committee which agree to discontinue a road from Abel Kendall's home in Boylston to Fitchburg, and to reimburse affected parties, 1793; 2 reports by a committee giving layout of two highways, each two rods wide, 1793; certificate from Ephraim Beaman, surveyor, that Reuben Dens Moor has worked out his highway tax, 1794; notice from Silas Holman that a committee meet at Landlord Bowen's in Lancaster, to lay out road from Sterling to Lancaster, 1805; list of citizens, some owning oxen, who worked out their highway tax, 1818; a notice of meeting issued by Michael Gill, Westminster, to inhabitants of West Boylston concerns the laying out of a road, 1823; receipt from James Allen, surveyor, for payment of surveying route for road through West Boylston, 1827; appointment of a committee to apportion expense in surveying a road, 1829. Selectmen: List of 153 names sent to Ezra Beaman, treasurer, as voters for state officers and representatives in Congress for the town of Boylston, 1803; order issued to Ezra Beaman, surveyor of highways, to have the granted assessment used on the public roads and bridges that need repairing in the 2nd precinct of Boylston, Sterling, and Holden, within bounds of Boylston, 1807; 7 notices sent to treasurer qualifying the names of voters, 1808-33; list of "Highway Squadrons with their several limits within the town of West Boylston", 1810; notice to Reuben Wilder that the town has no further claim on effects of Abner Wilder, 1814; notice from Samuel Mason concern a wall made for him, 1815; a request for a meeting from the Worcester Board to the "Selectmen of the most Ancient Town" of West Boylston to meet in Shrewsbury to perambulate, run, and renew the dividing lines between said towns according to law, 1815; an application for a license from selectmen of Weston for one of their citizens to open a store in West Boylston, 1815; solicitation of relief by Worcester Citizens Committee, for the family of Nathaniel P. Flagg, fire sufferers, 1816; a claim for damage done to the Whitaker property by the building of a new road, 1819; statement of transfer of account of Jonathan Plympton, town treasurer, to Ezra Beaman and receipt of same from Beaman, 1819; 2 statements of partial settlement of treasurer, 1820, 1821; statement of committing to Barnabas Davis, treasurer, the back taxes uncollected by former collectors, 1815-20, less credit for military exemptions, 1821; settlement with Barnabas Davis, treasurer, 1822; statement of funds transmitted by Davis, treasurer, to his successor John Lees, 1822; notice of meeting of committee appointed by court of sessions to lay out a road in West Boylston, 1823. Town Clerk: A notice of \$20 reward for the return of Aaron White's dapple gray horse stolen from him, 1803; notice to Ezra Beaman as a member of the committee to settle Oliver Sawyer's account and to meet at Sawyer's house for that purpose, 1807. Treasurer: Unsigned report of committee examining "account of Capt. Joseph Bigelow, treasurer of Boylston", 1788; a report of the committee chosen to reckon with the town treasurer, 1792; account of expenses of Ezra Beaman in early attempts to incorporate West Boylston, 1792-96; an account with Elisha Prouty, and on verso, a list of "Faml's, Souls & Polls" of Holden, Boylston, Sterling, and one family of Worcester, 1795; parish tax accounts of Ezra Beaman, Sr. and Ezra Beaman Jr., Jabez Beaman, and "Ruben" Keyes for 1797; 93 orders drawn on treasurer for various purposes and a list of precinct committees and assessors, 1797-1808; an account of money paid 17 persons and 12 orders drawn on Ezra Beaman, 1797;

## Beaman Collection cont'd

an order in favor of Samuel Mason who pays his parish tax for 1797; receipt for parish taxes from Peter Goodale, collector, 1798; list of 14 persons who paid taxes to Reuben Wilder, collector, 1801; notes regarding taxes against 10 individuals by Ezra Beaman, 1803; receipt for part payment of taxes to Silas Newton, collector, 1804; statement of state, county, parish and "Old Bilston" taxes due from Beaman and others to John Temple, collector, 1805; receipt for part payment of taxes to John Reed, 1805; paper showing delivery of funds to Joseph Hinds "for the purpos of Bying the Treas for Common", 1806; two orders, signed by Paul Goodale and William Fairbanks, precinct committee, 1807.

The following treasurer's papers are dated in the new town of West Boylston, incorporated January 30, 1808, made up from sections of Boylston, Sterling, and Holden. Note of receipt of taxes from Ezra May, collector, and on verso, ten orders totaling \$564.04 settled March 11, 1808; a statement that the committee, Paul Goodale and William Fairbanks have "attended a settlement with your precinct treasurer" and a report of the findings, 1808; 395 orders drawn on the treasurer, 1808-20; list of orders drawn on Ezra Beaman for a total of \$2211.00 during seven months of 1809, also list of orders paid to 12 individuals, 1809; list of 11 persons paying taxes on personal property, 1809; list of taxes, received from 33 citizens by Ezra Beaman, treasurer, for 1810-11; receipt for part payment of taxes to John Temple, collector, 1810. [Ed. note: Ezra Beaman's son, Ezra, Jr., succeeded his father in 1817, in serving the town of West Boylston in various offices until his death July 24, 1863 at the age of 92 years]. Statement of settlement due the town from Ezra Beaman, treasurer, 1813; papers authorizing payment to Ezra Beaman, highway surveyor, for work towards highway tax, 1813; record of settlement of accounts with 20 individuals plus Beaman's tax and cash, 1814; and 38 orders on the town, 1814; list of 23 orders drawn on the treasurer with statement of taxes and cash, 1814, and 39 orders for 1815; receipt for payment of services and expenses from Ezra Bigelow, 1823; receipt for payment of state, town, and county taxes, to Ezra Beaman, 1823; receipt to Beaman for money that he received from the overseers of the poor in Shirley for doctoring Thomas Hartwell, 1824; 2 receipted accounts for state, county and town tax, 1824, 1825; 2 receipts in full for 1st parish tax to Ezra Beaman, 1827; two receipts to Beaman for county, town and parish taxes, 1827, 1828.

## BRIGHAM COLLECTION, 1729-1847. 75 pieces.

Two members of the Brigham family were among the proprietors of the Plantation of Massanamisco (Grafton) and a part of the original grant is still occupied by their descendants. Charles (1700-1781) held every local public office, one time representative to the general court and also, under the appointment of the Royal Governor, a magistrate. His son, William (1739-1833), had little taste for public affairs. Charles (1769-1847), eldest son of William, was like his grandfather, very active in town affairs, and served as officer in the militia from 1792 to 1809.

Church papers consist of articles of faith and church discipline, a record of the council forming the church, and notes of meetings of the United Brethren of the Baptist Church of Christ in Grafton, 1767-87; record of sale of pew No. 19 in the meetinghouse at Grafton to William Brigham, 1785; deed of pew in the meetinghouse at Westborough to William Brigham, 1789; and a quitclaim deed to one-half of pew No. 37 in Congregational meetinghouse in Grafton

from Charles Brigham, 1847. A deed titled, "Copy from the Proprietors' Records", covers two acres and 126 rods of land surveyed for a highway through the Brigham land, 1729, filed with which are rough maps of plots of land. Other deeds are for land in Grafton and vicinity conveyed by: Joseph Rice, 1732; Amos Wait, 1750; Richard Roberts, 1750; Nathaniel Sherman, 1752, 1767; David and Edward Goddard, 1767; Phineas Rice and wife, 1772; William Brigham, 1782, 1794; Timothy Sherman and wife, 1785; Ebenezer Sadler and wife, 1786; Ephraim Mower, 1787; Daniel Rand and wife, 1797; Stephen Rice and wife, 1801, 1803; Oliver Stone, 1840; Charles Brigham, 1847. Military papers contain not only commissions to Charles Brigham, Jr., in Co. A, 2nd Regt., 2nd Brig., 7th Div. as 4th sergeant in 1792, 1st sergeant in 1794; lieutenant in 1803; and captain in 1804, but the following regimental orders: Lt. Brigham orders Sgt. Goddard, Nathaniel Adams, Joseph Elleck, Oliver Hayden, and Calvin Pierce to meet for election of captain, 1804; Lt. Col. Jason Ware orders Captain Brigham to meet at Munroe's inn at Northboro for consultation, 1804; Gov. Caleb Strong gives Captain Brigham directions re orderly sergeant, 1805; Adj. Jason Ware orders Captain Brigham to "parade" his company by the meetinghouse at Grafton on Aug. 7, 1807; Adj. Jason Ware orders Captain Brigham to have his company fully equipped and assembled at Grafton meetinghouse for military duty on Sept. 18, 1807; Brig. Gen. Silas Holman to Captain Brigham, concerns muster roll of his company, 1807. Muster roll of Captain Brigham's company with list of 55 names, 1808; discharge papers of Brigham from office of captain of militia, 1809.

This collection also contains: Description and plan of land surveyed by Hezekiah Ward, 1742; bond guaranteed by pledge and receipted by Josiah Quincy, 1760; writs of attachment issued by Charles Brigham, J. P., 1774, 1779; demand note signed by Nathaniel S. Prentice, 1771; note for 96 continental dollars, Charles Brigham to (Charles) Phelps, 1778; agreement, Charles Brigham, Sr., with his son, William, by which he deeds share of his estate "in return [recompense] for 19 years of labor after the age of 21", 1779; agreement releasing rights in estate of Charles Brigham to William Brigham, signed by John Goulding and nine other heirs, 1781; appointment of Levi Lincoln as guardian of Joshua Harrington, 1782; bond for 200 pounds coined silver as security for debt, William Brigham to Josiah Quincy, of Braintree, 1783; conditions of sale of real estate by Anna Prentice, 1763; labor agreement, John Druce with William Brigham, 1784; receipt of Stephen Eager, 1785; bond for £78.13s.4d. in Spanish dollars at 6s., William Brigham to Samuel Dexter, 1785; unsigned bond issued to William Brigham, 1785; warrant for collection of highway taxes. Thaddeus Read, et al, assessors, to Charles Brigham, 1797; broadside from Peleg Coffin, state treasurer, to selectmen of Grafton concerning collection of taxes in obedience to law of Feb. 28, 1801; warrants to Charles and William Brigham for their share of taxes, 1801; assessor's warrants, one to William Brigham, collector of highway taxes, and two to Charles Brigham, constable, to collect taxes, 1801; survey of William Brigham's home and farm by Thaddeus Read, 1802; appointment by William Brigham of Silas Church as his attorney, 1803; appointment of William Brigham as guardian of Benjamin Kingsbury, 1805; conditions of administrator's sale of estate of Peter Trask, Grafton, 1805; two agreements between Charles and William Brigham concerning the building of a dam for a blacksmith ship, 1809; agreement under which Charles Brigham sells Leonard Wheelock land with buildings, with bond covering the agreement, 1813; agreement between William Brigham and Ithamar Stowe,



## Brigham Collection cont'd

administrator of estate of the late Joshua Stowe, for purchase of land by Brigham, 1814; receipt for United States direct tax on property of William Brigham, 1814; lease of farm in Millbury to Charles Brigham, 1815; agreement, Lucy Brigham (Mrs. Solomon) with William Brigham confirming her dowry rights, 1817; "A Plan of the Brown Hard Wood surveyed Jan. 4, 1839" belonging to Clark J. Brown.

## CONANT COLLECTION: 1796-1892. Approx. 3,225 items.

Edwin Conant (1810-1904) was born in Sterling, Mass., graduated from Harvard College, 1829, studied law in Worcester, 1829-32, and began to practice law in Sterling, 1833. After his marriage, he moved to Worcester and continued his law practice under different partnerships until 1853. From then on, other business interests which he conducted either alone or with partners occupied the major part of his time. There are very few localities around Worcester in which Edwin Conant had neither clients nor interests. There are some manuscripts of Jacob Conant, his father, who had wide interests in various Worcester County towns. Filed with the Conant Collection are the papers of Rejoice Newton, the legal partner of Conant. When Edwin Conant died he willed his residence to the Worcester Natural History Society, which now occupies it as a museum.

Business papers consist of deeds and legal papers concerning transactions mostly in Worcester County, 1796-1889; personal and business notes, bills, and receipts of Jacob and Edwin Conant, 1817-92. The family and business letters of Jacob and Edwin Conant, and Rejoice Newton, refer almost entirely to legal affairs, 1817-92. There are short papers on nature subjects prepared by Edwin Conant and others, evidently for the Natural History Society in which Conant was much interested, 1848-58; genealogical notes of Conant family, n. d.; 2 photographs of Edwin Conant, n. d.; and various small personal memoranda.

Twenty-one volumes of Edwin Conant's deal principally with his law practice. They cover notes on law cases 1829-36, 150 pp.; commonplace book, 1830, 148 pp.; arithmetic book, 1830; 3 vols. of notes on law lectures, Harvard Law School, 1831, 165 pp., 131 pp., 171 pp.; action book on cases when Conant was justice of the peace, 1832-51, 88 pp.; court of common pleas docket, 1832-43, 65 pp.; notes on legal cases, 1833-41, 120 pp.; 1839, 17 pp.; cash book, 1835-42, 57 pp., 1837-39, 41 pp., 1837-40, 53 pp.; Newton and Conant cash book, 1837-41, 68 pp.; account of Jacob Conant's estate, 1837-39, 35 pp.; law ledger, 1837-41, 85 pp.; record of cases heard before Conant when justice of the peace, 1837-41, 22 pp.; record of inventories of various estates, 1842-45, 8 pp.; booklet kept by Conant as member of a Republican political committee in Worcester, 1856-62; deposit book in City National Bank, 1885-88; and one volume of notes on law, n. d. 170 pp.

## EARLE COLLECTION, 1789-1888. 356 items.

Members of the Earle family were among the original settlers of Leicester, in 1717. Pliny Earle (1762-1832) began the manufacture of hand cards, and, in 1797, invented a machine to pierce leather for card clothing. The patent, granted in 1803, contained the basic principles of all machines for the manufacture of twilled cards. His son, William B. (1802-91), assisted his father and added improvements to the machine design. He was a staunch defender of

the Quaker sect, prominent in the anti-slavery movement, and carried on an extensive correspondence with Federal officials regarding national currency. John Milton Earle (1794-1874) was editor of the Massachusetts Spy [later the Worcester Spy] and was active in state politics.

Pliny Earle papers are made up of family letters; business letters with Almy-Brown, Providence, R. I., and Samuel Slater, No. Providence, R. I., relating to the invention and patents of card clothing machinery, 1789-1814; order book for card machinery, 1793-96; general store ledger, 1812-28, 565 pp.; 4 books of carding accounts, 1817-49, aver. 150 pp.; card setting book, 1817-29; day book, card making account, 1825-39, 216 pp.; carding and store account ledger, 1825-48, 375 pp.; boarding account and scythe account, 1827-38, 100 pp.

The William B. Earle correspondence deals with card clothing industry, 1825-55; family and personal matters, 1829-85 the anti-slavery movement, 1829-43; Dr. Kidder's gas regulator, 1845-55; Quaker Imbroiglio correspondence with the following: Boston Transcript, Boston Advertiser, Chicago Dial, Christian Register, Boston Herald, The Nation, Dr. E. G. Ellis, Massachusetts Historical Society, Thomas W. Higginson, John C. Palfrey and Harper & Bros., 1877-85. Correspondence regarding coinage and politics with the following: New York Evening Post, Boston Globe, C. A. Dana [Editor of N. Y. Sun] U. S. Treasurer Wyman, Director of Mint, Linderman, Comptroller of Currency, J. J. Knox, Gen. H. Binney Sargent, and President Chester A. Arthur, 1877-85. Miscellaneous papers cover surveyor's notes, 1820-81; deed from Miles et al for land in Rutland, 1832; personal accounts and miscellaneous receipts, 1832-54; bylaws of Worcester Female Anti-Slavery Sewing Circle, and treasurer's book of Worcester Female Anti-Slavery Society, 1839-57; papers connected with various law suits over property rights in Leicester, 1855; renewals on patents for card clothing machinery, 1874-79; 2 handwritten copies of Howgill's Popish Inquisition Newly Erected in New England, published in England, 1659.

The John Milton Earle papers consist of a certificate of membership in the Society of Odd Fellows, [Ed. Note; only known copy in existence, not I.O.O.F.], 1828; newspaper and magazine subscription account book, 1857-60, 120 pp.; lettercopy book of Worcester Post Office, John Milton Earle, postmaster, 1861-66, 258 pp.; 2 certificates of appointment as deputy postmaster and as postmaster of Worcester, 1861, signed by President Abraham Lincoln; and correspondence relative to appointment as postmaster of Worcester.

This collection also contains: General and personal accounts of Sylvanus Earle, 1789-95; general note book and expense account of various members of the Earle family, 1821-38, 52 pp.; general store ledger [Thomas Earle, Rutland], 1825-28, 378 pp.; cash book, 1829; tuitions account book, Mulberry Grove Boarding School, 1833-35, 125 pp., [school was kept in Leicester, Mass., by Sarah Earle]; 2 deeds of land in Leicester (copies), 1739-40.

GOFFE COLLECTION, 1787-1832. 212 items.

Joseph Goffe (1766-1839) graduated from Dartmouth College in 1791. From 1792-1830 he was pastor of the North Parish Church of Sutton, Mass., in the district that was incorporated as the town of Millbury, 1813. Of the more than two thousand sermons known to have been written by him, this collection contains one hundred and ten.

Student manuscripts written by Goffe while attending Dartmouth College cover several subjects. English: essays, poems, orations, compositions, 33 pp. Latin: essays, poetry and translations from Greek to Latin and Latin to English, aver. 27 pp. Greek: interlinear translation of Hesiod and short essays, 16 pp.; abstracts from New Testament in Greek with Latin and English notations, 42 pp. Mathematics: arithmetic, 98 pp.; first rudiments of geometry, 36 pp.; plane geometry and trigonometry, 140 pp.; rules for square and cube root (in verse), 2 pp. Drama: Conquest of Peru [of which Goffe was co-author], 64 pp.; dramatic poem [no title, characters David, Saul, Adonijah, Solomon, etc.], 34 pp.; The Part of Sempronius, role in a drama enacted by Goffe, 26 pp.; role of Necker in unknown poetical drama, 4 pp. Laws and Orders of Dartmouth College in handwriting of Goffe, 32 pp. There is a copy of a letter recommending Goffe to Dartmouth College, from Simon Williams of Windham, Conn., and on verso, an essay. His theological and ministerial manuscripts comprise 2 booklets containing questions on divinity written while in Thetford, Vt., under the Rev. Asa Burton, in 1791, and at New Haven, Conn. under Jonathan Edwards [the younger], in 1792; commonplace book containing extracts from sermons, 1792; 110 sermons delivered in Sutton, Millbury and other parishes, 1792-1829; addresses, lectures, essays, compilations of religious questions, 1792-1828; letters relative to his dismissal by church in Millbury, 1830-32; and a few almanacs annotated with pulpit exchanges, and personal cash accounts.

#### JILLSON COLLECTION, 1850-92. 190 items.

J. Clark Jillson (1825-94) was a hardware merchant, an inventor of note, a lawyer, a judge, a capable orator, who served the city of Worcester as mayor in 1873, 1875, and 1876. Filed with the manuscripts is a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, etc. belonging to Mr. Jillson. The papers found in this collection embrace: patent papers, 300 pp., in case of Charles Spring and Charles Howard concerning improvement of lathes for turning out irregular forms, 1859; 8 commissions as justice of the peace, 1860-88; 18 patents issued to Mr. Jillson, mostly for mechanical devices, 1867-89; address by John D. Long given before the Massachusetts House of Representatives, 1875; address by George Hartwell, delivered at Dudley, Mass., 1877; school reports of Mary Jillson, 1877, and a few miscellaneous papers belong to her, n. d.; personal letter from the Rev. John Fiske of New Braintree, Mass., 1889; and - 19 page memorial to Jillson, written by Henry L. Shumway, n. d.

Letter book, 1847-54; legal letters (bound), 1850-92; ledger, 1857-59, 16 pp.; 2 trap ledgers, 1857, 81 pp., 1859, 45 pp.; letter book and 92 business and personal letters, 1859; 3 vols. of police complaints, 1860, 69 pp., 1861, 66 pp., 1862, 75 pp.; bar docket, 1862, 98 pp.; 2 vols. of criminal complaints, 1863-64, 300 pp., 1865-66, 112 pp.; and a book of evidence, 1865, 47 pp.

#### KELLEY-FOSTER COLLECTION, 1837-93. 118 items.

This collection treats of Abby Kelley (1811-87) and her conversion to the anti-slavery cause in 1837; her subsequent activities as an agitator and organizer of anti-slavery societies; her marriage in 1845 to Stephen S. Foster, also an abolitionist; and their experiences not only connected with the cause of anti-slavery, but later with that of woman's suffrage and prohibition. Mrs. Foster's only written account of her experiences as an early advocate of



freedom is particularly valuable. She was the earliest female platform speaker who continued to work for the cause. The Fosters lived in Worcester.

Letters written by Abby Kelley to her sister concern family affairs and her travels, 1837, 1838, 1845; those to Stephen S. Foster concern personal and public affairs, 1844-50; while one to her daughter, Alla, written in 1883, contains reminiscences of her life. Personal letters from Stephen to Abby Kelley Foster, 1856-93; letters addressed to Abby and Stephen Foster from such individuals as Wendell Phillips, Parker Pillsbury, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, John Greenleaf Whittier, Charles F. Hovey, William Lloyd Garrison, William H. Channing, Lucy Stone and J. A. Collins, deal mostly with anti-slavery affairs, 1837-82. A handwritten copy of a letter by John Greenleaf Whittier to Benjamin Ames of Philadelphia, in 1840, concerns Abby Kelley's activities in Philadelphia. Miscellaneous papers: marriage certificate of Stephen Foster and Abby Kelley, handwritten and signed by the principals and 33 witnesses according to Quaker custom, and on verso are birth records of Abby, Stephen, and Alla Foster; a deed from Polly Cook et al to Stephen S. and Abby Kelley Foster for land in Worcester, 1847; travel expense accounts; address list; list of subscriptions to Ohio Anti-Slavery Society, Western Anti-Slavery Society, Anti-Slavery Standard, Liberator and Anti-Slavery Bule, kept by Abby Kelley Foster, 1846-50; cash book of Foster family, 1874-86; general and family expenses, and cash receipts, 1874-86.

KENDALL COLLECTION, 1743-1847. 648 items.

The collection of the Kendall family of Sterling, Mass. is contemporary with that of the Beaman and Conant families. Josiah Kendall, his son Ezra, and grandson Ezra, Jr., were outstanding citizens as town and church officials, store-keepers, and mill owners.

There are various estate papers of Ezra Kendall and Nathaniel Sawyer, 1743-89; 100 items consisting of store accounts, militia appointments, and tax warrants of Ezra Kendall, 1797-1830; and militia appointments, guardian accounts, tax warrants and other papers of George Kendall, 1835-74; 5 vols. of town, county, and state taxes, 1809, 1816, 1840, 1841, 1845; 2 journals, 1806-9, 1810-14; saw book, 1828, 20 pp.

MAYNARD COLLECTION, 1831 (1861-88) 1908. 383 items.

Mander A. Maynard (1841-13) was a soldier, railroad man, antiquarian, and president of the Worcester Society of Antiquity.

Civil War papers consist of the diary of Mander A. Maynard, 1861-65; address notebook of Civil War comrades, 1888; and Civil War correspondence, 1861-65, 210 pieces. Miscellaneous papers include notes, clippings, receipts, insurance policies, deeds, correspondence, and poems, 1831-1908; personal diary, January to July, 1872; bank book, 1888; real estate accounts, 1892; letters to Maynard on death of his wife, 1908; notes of Maynard on European trip, 1908; and 38 essays and poems of George Maynard, n. d.

MERRIAM [Miriam, Meriam], COLLECTION, 1723-1894. 437 items.

This interesting collection covers the long history of a typical New England family. It contains over a hundred letters and notes of Nancy and Marcy [also Mercy] Meriam written in the early part of the 19th century,

Merriam [Miriam, Meriam], Collection cont'd.

many of which are in the form of poetry and rather unusual for their deeply religious trend. The genealogy of the family may be traced in the following volumes compiled by Rufus N. Meriam who died in 1894; 2 vols., *Genealogy History of the Meriam Family*, Vol. I, 401 pp., beginning with Robert Meriam (1607-75), son of William Meriam of Shadlowe, Kent, England, who was among the first settlers of Concord, Mass., and ending with the 8th generation; and Vol. II, 202 pp., continuing to the 10th generation. One vol., 44 pp. containing family records of John Hubbard (1655-1705/6) of Weathersfield, Conn. and Mary [or Margaret], daughter of William Meriam, 1659-1871. There are also family records of Jason [Henry] Duster and Mary [Polly] Meriam, 1768-1876; papers relating to the Judson family, Concord, 1643-1808, James Meriam family, 1747-88, and Samuel Meriam family, 1817-34; compilation of inscriptions on headstones of Merriam family dating back to Joseph Meriam (d. 1677), whose headstone is the oldest marked stone in the Old Cemetery at Concord, Mass.; papers and correspondence of Rufus N. Meriam while compiling the Meriam genealogy, 1880-94.

Documents, personal memoranda and military papers of various members of the family are to be found here. Story of Robert Meriam's experiences at Forts William Henry and Edwards, 1758-60; and notes on his visit to Indian Chief Mansong, 1760. JOSHUA MERIAM: military appointments, as ensign signed by Gov. William Phips, 1751, and as lieutenant, signed by Gov. William Shirley, 1754-55; receipt for keeping military horses; order to return home from expedition to Province forts, 1757; certificate of service, 1759; appointment of power of attorney, 1757; promissory notes to Jonas Meriam and from Moses Garfield, 1763; deed of church pew, 1767; notices of the filing of his will, appointment of James Meriam as executor of his estate, and a list of property holdings with division of his estate, 1784. JAMES MERIAM: Papers relative to service in the Continental Army, including fines and receipts for substitutes, 1777-81; account books, 1779-86; acknowledgment of dower and bond rights authorizing life use of father's house to Mercy Meriam, 1784; bonds to Nathan Pratt, 1785 and to James Barneys, 1790; agreement with Samuel Eddy and his son, Samuel, Jr., 1793; paper showing dispute of boundary and perambulation of property with Samuel Stone, 1798; copy of will, inventory of personal effects, and receipts for clothing left to James, Jr., 1803; inventory of real and personal estate, 1804. MERCY MERIAM: Certificate as to fitness to teach school, 1793; inventory of and accounts against estate, 1799. SUSANNA MERIAM: Bond, 1784; copy of will, and probate papers, 1810; estate receipts, 1811. SAMUEL MERIAM: Appointment as guardian of Naomi Gleason, 1818; estate receipts, 1828; deed of gift, Eunice Meriam to Thomas and Samuel Meriam, 1829; agreement to furnish railroad ties, 1856; inventory of estate, n. d. NANCY MERIAM: School copy book, and personal letters, 1809; diary containing notes on sermons heard and religious writings, 1813-15; 11 dated booklets and 15 loose sheets of notes on sermons and religious articles, 1813-15; reports and messages to Female Club Society by Nancy, 1820-22, copy of will, 1822; appraisal and settlement of estate, 1822-25. RUFUS N. MERIAM: 50 receipts of Rufus N. Meriam and others, 1840-57; Autograph Book containing pictures of Dartmouth College and the autographs of President Nathan Lord, members of the faculty, and the class of 1844; 4 letters signed by Horatio Bardwell, Louis Agassiz, David N. Brown and Perry Mason Co., 1852-69; patent papers relative to Daniel's planer, 1856-74; 7 Civil War letters, 1863-65; patent papers for cutter arms and



planing machine, 1864, improvements thereon, 1868, 1874; list of minerals and geological specimens collected by Meriam, n. d. Other family papers include 5 small account books, mostly inter-family accounts for grain, labor, and weaving, 1747-1802; guardianship papers for Sarah and Abigail Smith, 1762; personal bills and receipts, 1753-1857; receipt from John Meriam for legacy, 1789; poetry written by members of family, mostly on deaths of relatives, 1799-1838.

Deeds in the collection are for transfers of property to various members of the Meriam family by Thomas Gleason, Sr., 1723; Jacob Cummings, 1726; Elijah Gleason, 1728; Jonathan, Ebenezer, and Hezekiah Meriam, 1729; Uriah Stone, 1742, 1743; John Wald, 1753; Ebenezer Davis, 1763; Ebenezer Meriam, 1764; Samuel Bennett, 1765; Joseph Edwards, 1768; Joshua Meriam (copy), 1779; Thomas Gleason, and Mercy Streeter, 1781; Comfort Streeter, 1782; Levi Eddy, and Nathan Pratt, 1785; Joseph Merritt, and Jesse Smith, 1786; Thomas Gleason, 1789; Thomas Meriam, 1816; Daniel Marble, 1829; Ebenezer McIntire, 1831. Church papers consist of: Sunday school class records of Oxford Church of Christ, and list of members, 1819, 21 pp.; records of Female Cent Society contain constitution, list of members, secretary's and treasurer's reports, 1820-22; reports, constitution and list of members of Female Club Society, 1820-22; list of accessions to Church of Christ in Oxford, 1822-34; receipt for pew in Oxford new meetinghouse, 1829. There is a copy of the Lord's Prayer in Chinese; and water color painting of the "talo plant" by Yun Lun Chun Arkum [first Chinese student in America, graduate of Leicester Academy, and later of Amherst College], 1839.

#### MERRIFIELD COLLECTION, 1767-1890. 160 items.

Alpheus and William T. Merrifield were influential in the development of Worcester's manufacturing industries. The Merrifield buildings, erected in 1839, were destroyed in 1854 by the most disastrous fire in the history of Worcester. After being re-built to extend some eleven hundred feet on Union Street, they housed many of the city's leading industries at one time or another. Judge William T. Forbes married Harriette, the daughter of William T. Merrifield.

Papers in this collection are made up of business bills and receipts, 1805-82; 70 deeds and leases for land in Westborough and Worcester, most of which pertain to the White family of Westborough, 1767-1863; and inventories of estates, 1841, 1853, 1866; membership certificate in Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 1860, and certificate of life membership in Worcester Y. M. C. A., 1870, issued to William T. Merrifield; membership certificate in American Home Missionary Association to Harriette Merrifield, 1883. Four papers belonging to William F. Forbes are included: His appointment as judge of probate, 1888, and as justice of the peace, 1890; and certificates of his election to the Massachusetts Senate, 1885, 1886.

#### MILLER COLLECTION, 1821-65. Approx. 2,014 items.

Henry W. Miller was a Worcester Retail hardware dealer of the firm of Rice & Miller. He was chief of the Worcester Fire Department, 1840-44.

The bulk of this collection is made up of approximately 500 business letters, 1825-26; 370 receipts and bills, 1822-56; and 315 orders for goods, 1847-

## Miller Collection, cont'd

56. The account books: personal expense book, 1821-29, 40 pp.; chain account book, 1827-31, 60 pp.; 6 small account books contain miscellaneous items, 1828-57; 37 waste or day books, July 1832 to January 1836, aver. 190 pp.; inventory book contains accounts and notes, 1834, 40 pp.; sales book, 1836-42, 76 pp.; approx. 765 personal and store accounts, 1841-52; small memo book, 1846-47; 2 purchasers' account books, 1849-51, 200 pp., 1851-53, 229 pp.; 10 pay books, 1850-65; borrowing and lending account book, 1853-58, 150 pp. There are two diplomas issued to Henry W. Miller from Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association, 1839, and Worcester County Mechanics' Association, 1849; and a membership certificate in Worcester State Guard to Henry W. Miller, 1863.

## PICKETT COLLECTION, 1859-95. 150 items.

Josiah Pickett (1822-1908) was a veteran of the California gold rush. At the Battle of Cold Harbor, while in command of the regiment, he offended his superior officer and was placed under arrest. His heroism in that battle drew commendation from the same general but no change was made in the records of his restraint, and over forty years later he died, a technical prisoner.

Military items consist of 7 commissions to Josiah Pickett: sergeant, 2nd lieutenant, 1st lieutenant, major, lieutenant-colonel, colonel, and brigadier general (by brevet), in 25th Mass. Regt., 1859-68; 2 discharges from service, 1861, 1865; certificate of honorary membership in Worcester State Guard. Six pension papers and pay adjustments, 1865-92; and two letters addressed to the Worcester Society of Antiquity record the presentation of his Civil War records, 1895. Political appointments: revenue collector of Boston and of Charlestown, 1865; license commissioner of Worcester, 1865; copy of petition of Worcester citizens for appointment of Pickett as postmaster, 1865, 24 pp.; 12 appointments as postmaster of Worcester, 1866-87. Membership certificates: Montacute Lodge and Eureka Chapter of the A. F. & A. M., 1861, 1874; Worcester Mechanics' Association, 1871; and 11 certificates of membership in various patriotic societies, 1877-92. Personal receipts and memoranda, 1866-89.

## THOMAS COLLECTION, 1794-1845. 10 items.

Isaiah Thomas was a printer and a publisher in Worcester during the Revolution, and was the founder of the American Antiquarian Society.

Correspondence consists of: 2 personal letters to Jonathan Dwight and Justin Ely in regard to printing dispute over South Hadley lottery, 1805; copy of a letter to [Jonathan] Dwight, 1805; letter to Samuel Williams of Rutland, Vt., 1807; letter from Benjamin A. Thomas [grandson of Isaiah] to his cousins, Abraham and Mary Randall, relative to the heirs' interest in the land occupied by American Antiquarian Society building, 1845; letter of thanks from the Olive Branch of the A. F. & A. M. to the Misses Clara and Mary Randall, for gift of pictures and the Bible of Isaiah Thomas, 1906. There is also one bundle of miscellaneous papers relating to Thomas' estate (copies) 1841-43; receipts, Massachusetts Spy, 1805-11; and an abstract and copy of Thomas' will, 1845.

## SUMNER COLLECTION, 1727-1887. 296 items.

This collection centers around the Rev. Joseph Sumner (1740-1824). He graduated from Yale College in 1759 and began his ministry at Shrewsbury, Mass.,

in 1762, where he served until his death in 1824. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Harvard College in 1814, and from Columbia College shortly afterward. The church papers largely concern controversies in various parishes in Worcester County in which Mr. Sumner served on the councils. Later papers and volumes are those of his descendants. Filed with the manuscripts are 12 issued of the Weekly Star, published by Edward P. Sumner in 1879; boarding school circulars and notices, 1880-82; business cards left by various salesmen [Ed. note: George Sumner was in the dry goods business at one time]; and stereoscopic slides of Columbia, S. C.

The church papers include sermons and church notes, 1727-1802; council reports, and letters regarding controversies, written by the Rev. Joseph Sumner to churches in the following towns: Fitchburg, Paxton, Auburn, Bolton, Petersham, Westminster, Marlboro, Mass., Cheshire, and Temple, N. H., Pomfret, Conn., 1770-1807; receipts for salary, 1789-1807; marriage intentions signed by various town clerks, 1790-1841. Receipt book of Rev. Job Cushing [Sumner's predecessor] 1763-93; surveyor's notes, 1816-32, 156 pp.; constitution and secretary's book of Shrewsbury United Agricultural Society, 1811-19, general store ledger of Erastus Sumner, 1820-52, 284 pp., and journal, 1822-26, 369 pp.; account book of settlement of various estates in Shrewsbury, 1821-31, 160 pp.; cash account and notations of George Sumner, 1847-57. A few remaining papers are made up of personal letters passed between George Sumner and Laura Drury, 1787-1880; deeds conveying land in Shrewsbury to members of the Sumner family, 1769-1844; 8 Old Farmer's Almanacs annotated with personal entries by George Sumner, 1880-87; and a list of members in Shrewsbury Rifle Company, n. d.

WALDO COLLECTION, 1742-1866. 135 items.

Daniel Waldo (1724-1808) came to Worcester in 1782 and started a hardware store into which he took his son, Daniel, Jr., (1763-1845), as a partner. This partnership was dissolved in 1791 and the business was continued by the son. Father and son built up what was considered a large fortune at that period and were prominent in Worcester business affairs. Each of them served as president of the Worcester (National) Bank. Daniel Waldo, Jr., was the first president of the Worcester County Institution for Savings, president of the Worcester Agricultural Society, and was connected with many other institutions.

The collection contains 100 deeds of land in Worcester and vicinity, 1742-1845; 22 legal papers, 1787-1845; 6 personal receipts, 1787-1809; 4 personal letters, 1787-1824; invoices and general store accounts, 1805-17.



City, County, State, and New England Collections

CITY OF WORCESTER MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION, 1707-1934. Approx. 3,000 items.

Business records embracing the usual bills, receipts, contracts, accounts, and correspondence comprise a large bulk of this collection. Industries, professions, and business enterprises are represented by the following classifications. Architect: Small account book of Elbridge Boyden and his specifications for the courthouse in Lowell, the Quinsigamond school in Worcester, and the Baptist Home in South Reading, 1836; settlement of partnership, Phineas Ball with Elbridge Boyden, 1855. Baker: Cracker sales book of C. H. Stearns 1865-66, 110 pp. Banks: Checks, mortgages, and correspondence of the City National Bank, Worcester County Institution for Savings, Quinsigamond Bank, Citizens Bank, and the Worcester Safe Deposit Trust Company, 1846-76. Blacksmith: Account book of John O'Leary, 1873-81, 392 pp. Canals: Survey notes, 1825-26, 300 pp.; list of arrivals, assignments, departures, 1829-31; and freight book, 1830-32, 131 pp. of the Blackstone Canal Co. Card clothing: tax receipt of Timothy K. Earle & Co., 1853-56. Carriage mfr.: Correspondence, contracts, deeds, price lists and inventories, 1825-80; ledger, 1833-37, 158 pp.; and inventory book, 1842-45, 100 pp. of Tolman & Hunstable. Druggist: Outstanding accounts of Charles A. and Ebenezer Harrington, 1848-50. Express: Account book of Paul Gates, 1860-1820, 300 pp.; receipt book of Benjamin Leonard, 1867-73, 43 pp. Firearms: Notice refusing patent for retractor, to Ethan Allen, 1856. General Store: Account and day book of Daniel Henshaw, 1746-81, 305 pp. Journal, 1814-15, 240 pp.; ledger, 1814-28, 534 pp.; transportation account, 1814-15, 248 pp.; and seven day books 1820-24, 360 pp.; 1821-22, 290 pp.; 1822-23, 365 pp.; 1823-24, 333 pp.; 1824-25, 320 pp.; 1825-27, 366 pp.; 1830, 416 pp., all of Stephen Salisbury. Two ledgers, 1829-34, 96 pp., 1834-74, 125 pp., and letter copy book, of Anthony Chase. Slip account book, 1835 and 2 journals, 1837, 72 pp. and 1837-39, 467 pp., of W. H. Swan Company. Ledger, 41 pp., cash book, 75 pp., and 3 day books of approx. 200 pp. each, 1838-41, of James Estabrook & Company. Account book of Jonas Bartlett, 1840-55, 150 pp. Two day books, 1846, 220 pp., 1854-55, 320 pp., and cash book 1846-47, 125 pp., of W. H. Larned Company. Time book of Ebenezer Rice, 1848-50. Ledger, 1856-58, 346 pp., and two day books, 1856-57, 400 pp., and 1857-58, 186 pp., of James F. Raymore. Hardware: Accounts of John Miller, 1794-1827; 2 account books, 1829, 200 pp.; and 1835, 424 pp., of Joseph Pratt. Insurance: receipts and deeds of Frederick W. Paine, 1822-62; cash book of James B. Knox & Co., 1872. Lawyers: Records of Col. J. W. Wetherell, J. P., 1853-57, 102 pp. Three vols. of notary records, 1853, 1861, and 1867, 1000 pp. each, of John Boyden, M. P., Worcester and New Bedford. Notes on trials, 1855, 56 pp. by Emery Washburn. List of cases 1885-86, 162 pp., by William A. Giles. Liquor: Store book and accounts, 1785-91, 44 pp., of Abraham Lincoln, (Worcester). Lumber: Ledger of Goulding, Gregory, Thompson & Company, 1854-55, 150 pp. Two letter copy-books of lumber accounts, 1886-92, 989 pp., and 1892-96, 994 pp.; journal, 1893-1901, 637 pp.; two cash books, 1897-1901, 256 pp., and 1898-1901, 196 pp.; three ledgers, 1899-1901, 535 pp., 1900-1901, 380 pp., 1900-1901, 195 pp.; and day book, 1899-1901, 512 pp., of Ellery B. Crane. Lunchroom: Day book of Reed & Harrington, 1872-73, 200 pp. Mill supplies: Account book of Levi L. Johnson, 1867-81, 30 pp. Newspapers: Subscription receipts of Jonas Bartlett, 1833;

and subscription list of Aegis Directory, 1848, 300 pp. Numismatics: Catalogue of collection of coins, 1828; reproduction booklet of coins and seals; and 2 vols. of inventory of coins and description of the collection of Alexander and Julius Guenther. Painter: Ledger of Samuel Curtis, 1856-62, 72 pp. Physicians: Notes on lectures taken by Doctor Hemingway while a student at Boston and Yale, 30 pp., his notes called *Materia Medica* taken at Yale, 1822, 172 pp., and his cash book, 1826-32, 240 pp. Day book, 1825-32, 360 pp., of Dr. William Workman. Ledger of Dr. C. H. Perry, 1866-84, 616 pp. Printer: Appraisal and day book of George Maynard, 1881-1904, 350 pp. Shoe and leather mfrs.: Receipts and letters of David Manning, 1860-65; correspondence of Horace Bigelow, 1861-72. Shoemakers: Account book of Levi R. May, 1808-51, 200 pp.; cash account book of Foster Newell, 1812-14, 190 pp. Steamfitter: Day book of Washburn & Garfield, 1872-76, 200 pp. Stone Cutters: Order book of Thomas Lewis, 1851-53, 56 pp.; 2 ledgers of John Burns, 1882, 262 pp., and 1888, 250 pp. Textile: 4 patents issued to Russell Hawes for improvements on printing paper hangings, 1848, drying cloth, 1854, diaphragm fluid meter, 1856, and for machine-making paper boxes, 1855. Transportation: Letter book, freight division, 1856-63, 486 pp.; 7th division, track labor, 1857-59, 200 pp.; and bond, 1875 of the Worcester-Nashua R. R. Two books of receipts for freight, 1858-60, 550 pp., and 1866, 220 pp., of the Boston and Worcester R. R. Letter copybook of records of tickets sold on the Worcester-Nashua, Fitchburg, Norwich and Worcester, Providence and Worcester Railroads, including bill to States for transportation of soldiers, 1861-65, and stock ledger, 1873-90, 20 pp., of the Worcester-Shrewsbury R. R. Freight bills and receipts of the Providence and Worcester R. R., Commercial Line, Western R. R., Hartford and New Haven R. R., Boston and New York Central R. R., and the Hudson R. R., 1836-67. A number of accounts for personal items or household merchandise bear the names of Elijah Dix, 1796-1832; Moses Perry, 1816; Guy and George Newton, 1828-74; Nehemiah Davis, 1837-39; William B. Peirce, 1846; Luther G. Moore, 1839; John and Charles B. Gates, 1847-97; Samuel H. Lenard, 1848-67; Albert B. Plimpton, 1850-80; George W. Russell, 1852-76; William B. Chamberlain, 1875; and Samuel E. Staples, 1876. There is a bill against the Commonwealth for keeping prisoners at the Worcester County jail, 1820.

Correspondence in this collection comprises: 2 letters (copies) written by Timothy Bigelow to his wife, while in war service, 1885; letter to George A. Trumbull from David Hale of Boston, regarding subscriptions to Scott's family Bible, 1823; letter from Horatio Bardwell of Holden, Mass., donating brick assumed to be from the Tower of Babel, to the American Antiquarian Society, 1833, 3 family letters, Peter Galey [wood carver], written in French, 1837-76; 4 letters from various committees of Anti-Slavery Society, 1838-39; letters and accounts of Andrew D. and Mrs. Anna McFarland, 1838-50; 2 personal letters of Elihu Burritt, 1840-41; 2 letters from William Lincoln to Gov. Edward Kent of Maine, and to the land agent of Maine, recommending John Downs as the man to explore the northeast boundary of Maine, 1841; letter from the Rev. J. Mowry of Green River, Vt. to Miss Emily Tatman, 1847; letter to Nathaniel Paine from Edward Everett Hale on discovery of trilobites in Quincy, Mass., 1856; personal letters, passport, and catalogue of library books of Chandler Lee, 1851-75; 17 letters to Dr. John Green from his brother and nephew while in Europe, 1839; 3 letters of Gov. Levi Lincoln to captain of the City Guards, 1859-60, letters to Col. J. W. Wetherell [member of Gov. John A. Andrews' staff], relating to military appointments, 1861-65, letter from John William Grout, 2nd Lt., Co. D, 15th Mass. Regt. to Charles Walker, October 6, 1861

[Grout was killed at Ball's Bluff, Virginia, October 21, 1861]; Civil War letter to Dr. Albert D. Wood, written from near Brandy Station to his sister Kitty, 1863; letter to Dr. Albert D. Wood from H. Gassett of Dorchester, Mass., 1874; letter from F. E. Spinner, U. S. Treasurer, to R. H. Southgate accompanying two sets of fractional currency, 1866; personal letter to Rebecca Sutton from the Rev. Seth Sweetser, 1873; 4 family letters, William F. Gardner, 1875-76; 2 Plimpton family letters, 1876-79; letter confirming the appointment of William Dickinson as a trustee of Worcester Lunatic Hospital, 1883; letter from Dr. Charles N. Chamberlain of Lawrence to Samuel B. Woodward, pertaining to history of Dale U. S. A. General Hospital at Worcester from 1864 to 1866. [Ed. note: These buildings are now a part of the Worcester Academy plant]; letter from Samuel B. Woodward, Supt., State Lunatic Hospital to Dr. R. T. D. Fiske, Hingham, n. d.; letter to Eli Thayer from Charles B. Lines giving reminiscences of the Kansas Question, 1886; 23 letters of Shepard K. Robbins in reference to legend of Barbara Frietchie, 1891-93; 40 letters to Thomas A. Dickinson, Worcester Antiquarian Society relating to the drawing of powder horns by Rufus Grider, and sketch of latter's life, 1891-96; 2 letters of Stephen Salisbury, one offering land to the city of Worcester for municipal building, 1894, and one to sergeant-at-arms of State House, Boston; 3 letters to Worcester people describing World War conditions in India, from the Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Hume missionaries, 1914-16; 2 letters from Charles G. Washburn to Charles B. Gates in appeal for Near East Relief, March 14 and 15, 1928. With these letters are found many papers written mostly by Worcester residents. Addresses: 47 toasts delivered by Abijah P. Marvin, historian, 1853-88; memorial address on 100th anniversary of the birth of Andrew H. Green, 1920. Dramas: Part of manuscript of Worcester historical pageant given in 1910; Pioneers and an historical drama of early Worcester, by Rev. Marchal M. Gould, 1930; Savitri's Choice: A Hindu Legend; and Mexitilli, Historical Romance of Mexico; the last three named, by Thomas Rice, n. d. Essays: Temperance, On Spring, by Albert B. Plimpton, n. d.; essays written by high school students, 1838-56. Description of Jacques' House, Leicester Road, Worcester, by Georges Jacques, 1864; Nobility Hill, paper read by Charles A. Chase before the Worcester Historical Society, 1908; Abraham Lincoln's Visit to Worcester in 1848, by Arthur P. Rugg, 1909; Historical Scenes along the lines of the British Advance and Retreat of April 19, 1775, by J. P. Spears, 1912; astronomical notes by E. W. Bond, 1841; The Corn Borer Situation, by Theophilus Brown, 1927; World's Fair [Chicago], Pen Pictures of Olden Times, Narrangansetts, notes on his California trip, by Ellery B. Crane, n. d.; Dorothea Dix, by Mary G. Murfield Fay, n. d.; History of John Hancock's Trunk, by Dorothy Hancock White, n. d.; notes on early Worcester history, by Jeanette Ramsey, n. d.; 5 papers read before the Timothy Bigelow Chapter D. A. R., Committee on Correspondence, Isaiah Thomas' Estate, Thomas' Printing Office, Thomas' Court House Records, and The Hancock House, by Cora B. Start, n. d. A paper on Virginia vs. Massachusetts, author unknown, n. d. Poems: Worcester City Guards, author unknown, 1838; Hiawatha's Critics, by Thomas Crane, 1856; 3 poems, A Chalk Talk, Compensation, and My Voyage, by Joseph Jackson, 1916-17; poem sent to Elihu Burritt from George Farron [England], n. d. and one on Universal Plan, by John Peck, 16 pp., n. d. Sketches: Biographical sketches of: William F. Gardner, Henry Goddard, Jeremiah J. Stiles, Joel E. Stratton, and the children of Dr. William Paine, all n. d. Historical sketch of Worcester trade from 1800 to 1880, n. d. Introduction written for Hurd's History of Worcester County, by P. Emory Aldrich.

A number of diaries are in this collection. They were written by Leonard Manning, 1836-54; William Legg, 1850-51; Thomas Bugbee, 1856-58; George Maynard, 1862-81; Albert B. Plimpton, 1866-80; Charles H. Lincoln, 1905-36. Friendship



albums belonging to Maria A. George, 1838; Mrs. R. J. Redfield, 1846-48; Adda Maynard, 1854-62; and Mary Spring, 1863-64. Almanacks, annotated by the Rev. Nehemiah Porter, 1750, and the Rev. Ebenezer Parkman, 1766.

There are on deposit about 500 pieces of manuscripts relating to the genealogy of members of the following families, most of whom were Worcester residents: Aldrich, (Chas.) Allon, Ayres, Baird, Ball, Bannister, Barnard, Beath, Bicknell, Brewer, Bridges, Bullard, Chapin, Child, (Jos.) Clark, Coombs, Cook, Crane, Cummins, Curtis, Dane, Deane, (John) Dodge, (Thomas) Dodge, Emerson, Felton, Fenner, Fisher, Flagg, Foster, Fuller, Gaskill, George, Goodell, Hamilton, (Edw.) Hamilton, (Silas) Hamilton, Harrington, Hill, Hinckley, Hinds, Holm, Jones, Kimball, Knight, McFarland, Moore, Newell, Newton, Parsons, Pickett, Plimpton, Rich, Richardson, Seagrave, Smith, Southworth, Sprague, Sterns, Stetson, Stone, Sutherland, Taft, Thompson, Tucker, Tyler, Upham, Waite, Ward, Warfield, Washburn, Watson, Wellington, Wheelock, White. Notes and correspondence of the history of the Rawson family by Reuben Rawson Dodge, 1849. Series of papers on estates of early Worcester settlers and their descendants, with genealogical notes.

Among the municipal and political papers are found the following miscellany: Assessor's books: valuation list, 1832, 36 pp.; list of voters, Ward 2, 1850-51, 19 pp.; Wards 5 and 6, 1879-80, 35 pp.; 1881-82, 120 pp.; Wards 3 and 4, 1880, 120 pp.; Ward 3, 1881, 120 pp.; poll tax lists, Ward 8, 1883, 36 pp.; 1885, 35 pp.; Ward 8, precincts 2 and 3, 36 pp.; n. d. Highway department's printing records, 1877-79, 83, pp., and departmental claims, 1888-91, 66 pp. and 1893-94, 34 pp. A few papers relate to the local fire department: Orders and receipts, 1827-45; reports of assistant engineers, 1835-45, 6 vols., and of the engineers, 1835-44; memos of various fire companies, 1835-40; list of applicants, members, and volunteers, 1835-46; list of members enrolled in the militia 1836-38; pay roll accounts, 1839-45; Membership certificates of Edward Babitt, 1839, and of George H. Sawin, 1861, in the Worcester Fire Department Hook & Ladder Co. Records of Washington Engine Company, 1843-46, 100 pp.; Hook and Ladder #2, 1855-59, 100 pp.; and the Yankee Engine Company #5, 1856-69, 204 pp. There are a number of odd records such as: Photostat of a town record, June 4, 1774, expunged by order of the town; writ of attachment issued by Joseph Allen, town clerk, 1800; political letter from Abraham Lincoln [selectman of Worcester] to Gen. John Spurr of Charlton, Mass., and other Republicans, urging political activity for the party, 1805; plans for a proposed memorial for the Revolutionary soldiers, 1809, and correspondence relating thereto; petition for sidewalk on westerly side of Southbridge Street from iron bridge to College Street, prints of layouts around the common and in the vicinity of Lincoln Square, 1828-83; 2 certificates from sealer of weights and measures, for measuring wood, 1838-41; fee and account book of Charles W. Hawthorne, clerk of courts (Worcester), 1847-51. Six Kansas subscription lists containing 722 names and amounting to \$7,241, which lists came back into Eli Thayer's possession, 1856; correspondence in reference to the Colonel Timothy Bigelow monument, 1861; notifications of the election of Phineas Ball as mayor of Worcester, 1864; city election material, 1871-82; 4 items; 30 liquor licenses, internal tax receipts for liquor and tobacco, and medical registrations, 1862-78; petitions to Dr. Kelly to become candidate for mayor of Worcester, 1880-81; Draft of Index of Early Records of Worcester, Book #2, compiled in 1880,

## Worcester Manuscript Collection

40 pp. Drawing of the mounted cannon from the British ship Hussar for the Spanish War monument, history of the monument, list of Worcester soldiers, and a copy of the order accepting the monument, 1917.

Records of various Worcester associations and organizations are found among the manuscripts. The Worcester Agricultural Society is represented by the following volumes: List of committees, 1819-60, 226 pp.; premium book, 1820-37, 200 pp.; treasurer's book, 1840-70, 308 pp.; record of trustees, 1860-79, 504 pp.; Massachusetts State Grange Fair, 1895, 97 pp.; report of committee meetings, 1896-1923, 400 pp.; expense book, 1901-2, 11 pp.; Farmer's Institute, record of winter meetings, 1912. Membership certificates in the same Society are in the names of William Lincoln, 1857, Henry L. Stone, 1863, A. C. Buttrick, 1868, L. G. Moore, 1869, and George M. Rice, 2d, 1891. Six vols. belonging to the Worcester Highland Military Academy cover one composition book, 1862, 109 pp.; 4 student ledgers, 1867-75, 803 pp., 1891-96, 393 pp., 1897-1906, 250 pp., 1902-9, 476 pp.; and a record book of general orders, 1871-90, 252 pp. There are also to be found: Constitution and bylaws of Washington Benevolent Society together with 3 addresses on society affairs given by Samuel Burnside, Josiah Clark, and Samuel Johnson, 1813; constitution, bylaws, and pledge of the Washington Temperance Society, 1842; constitution of the Worcester Ball Club, 1857; treasurer's book of the Worcester Review Club, 1859-97, 236 pp.; secretary's book of the Book Club #4, 1870-1935, 260 pp.; membership certificate of Katie A. Field in the local Y. M. C. A., 1872; 3 assessments of the Worcester County Mechanics Association, 1876-78, together with early membership certificates issued to L. P. Kottoll, 1842, Plympton & Parker, 1849 and 1866, John M. Earle, 1850, S. A. Howland, 1851, and William H. Brown, 1866; 25 letters to the secretary of the Worcester Society of Antiquity relating to exchanges and collections of the society, 1880-92; treasurer's books of the Public Education Association, together with letters, receipts, membership lists, and canceled checks, 1905-9; exchange list of the Worcester Historical Society, 1914-15; area council charters for the local Boy Scouts of America, 1932-34.

Church records comprise few deeds and plans, secretaries' and treasurers' accounts, notices, reports of meetings, and other church papers of the following religious groups: Old South Congregational, Union Congregational, First Baptist, Pleasant Street Baptist, Salem Street Congregational, Calvinistic, First Universalist, Worcester Central Association, and Central Church Cadets, 1822-1903. Five vols. of religious notes were compiled by George Allen, 1858-68. There is a large collection of sermons, approximately 2,369 pieces, written by the following clergymen: Job Cushing, 1720-40; (?) Hall, 1738-81; Nathan Stone, 1738-46; Ebenezer Parkman, 1739-73; Joseph Avory, 1752-1805; Samuel Baldwin, 1755, 1760, 1762, 1764; Ezra Stiles, 1756-61; Thaddeus McCarthy, 1769; Reuben Puffer, 1772-1821; (?) Clark, 1783; John Smalley, 1790-1805; Nehemiah Porter, 1794-1801; Ward Cotton, 1794-1824; Nathaniel Emmons, 1798-1812; Ebenezer Cutler, 1859-80; Phillips Brooks, 1875; Parker Pillsbury, n. d., and many of unknown authorship, 1734-1870. A membership certificate in the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society was issued to the Rev. S. W. Bannister in 1850. Cemetery records are lists of lot owners, deeds, and interments in the Old Mechanic Street Burying Ground, Catholic Cemetery (Tatnuck) and Rural Cemetery 1808-78; 81 inscriptions taken from Old Catholic Cemetery; these include an address on Dedication of Rural Cemetery with plan of lots.



In addition to a number of deeds, there are found among the miscellaneous papers, a certificate of conviction of Daniel Haven for swearing "one profane oath," 1771; photostatic of certificate of recommendation as surgeon to Alexander Reed, 1811; certificates to Phineas Ball, 1841-44, and to Chandler Lee, 1850-51, for fitness to teach school; diploma of Mrs. S. R. Harris from Worcester Medical College, 1855; scholarship of Lewis S. Carpenter in Worcester Academy, 1859; memorandum of Gov. Levi Lincoln concerning land bought from Worcester-Nashua R. R. in Boylston, 1865; diploma of Clara Bemis from High School, 1870; lease to Dr. Albert D. Wood from Henry Bishop for premises on Pearl Street, Worcester, 1870; court order to the directors of the First Worcester Co-operative Grocery and Provisions Assoc., 1874; affidavit of William F. Gardner's burial, 1876; 7 certificates issued to Frank Lawrence for articles deposited in the Congressional Library, 1883; 17 papers relating to the transfer of the body of N. R. Scott from Alexandria, Egypt, [Ed. note: Scott died while traveling in Egypt] 1883; authorization for George Sawin [janitor of City Hall] to receive registered mail, 1902; and the army record of Capt. Oliver P. Tyler, 1918-20. The deeds are for land in Worcester and vicinity and are conveyed from: Silas Harrington to Silas Harrington Jr., 1816; Levi Howe to Benjamin Heywood, 1816; Alexander Stowell to Paul Gates, 1817; Samuel Hathaway to Alvin Robinson, 1819; Guy Stafford Newton and George Newton to various individuals, 1828-74; Elisha Harkness to Nathan Pond, 1830; Joseph Goddard to Nathan Bond, 1834; Osgood Bradley to William Weeks et al., 1835; Charles Lamb to Jonathan Frost et al., Thomas and Francis Kinnicut to Benjamin Buffum, 1847; John Green to Benjamin Otis, 1851; David S. Messenger to Benjamin Otis, 1855; William Heywood to Rachel Thomas et al., 1886. Burial plot deed issued to Andrew D. and Mrs. Anna McFarland in Burial Cemetery, 1831.

COUNTY OF WORCESTER MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION, 1667-1899. Approx. 1,200 items.

The following manuscripts are from various towns in Worcester County.

ATHOL: Plan of block house at Washington, N. C., drawn by Samuel Rice, Athol, 1864.

AUBURN: Record of the incorporation of the Stoneville Manufacturing Co., 1842-50, 17 pp.; assessor's valuation book, 1850-57; military rolls in assessor's records, 1850.

BERLIN: Court summons Brigham vs. Kendall, 1826; deeds of Thomas Brigham family, 1826; appointment of Thomas Brigham as guardian, 1833. Puffer papers consist of the will of Nicholas Chadwick, County Derby, England, 1667; deed of land in Wrentham from Richard Puffer, 1702/3; and agreement on lease of land in Winster, County Derby, England, called "the Pingles", rental for one year to be one pepper corn, 1768.

BOYLSTON: Tax receipt of Benjamin Hinds, 1801; sale of personal property of widow Nancy Brigham, 1835; constitution and list of members of the Boylston Anti-Slavery Society, 1836-41; intentions and marriage certificate of John B. Gough and Mary E. Whitecomb, 1843; letter from Gough to Gen. William Larimer, 1851.

BROOKFIELD: Deed, Josiah Hamilton et al., to Silas Hobbs, Sturbridge, for water rights in this town, 1788; application and bond of Elias Staples for loan from Boston Bank, 1803. Caleb Marsh papers consist of deeds of land in Brookfield, 1804-19; will of Caleb Marsh, 1813; inventory of his estate, 1814; and appointment of Perley Rowell attorney for Marsh heirs, 1815. Arithmetic book of Caroline Wheeler, n. d.

## County of Worcester Manuscript Collection

CHARLTON: Deeds and legal papers of the Dresser family for land in Charlton and Dudley, Mass., Chesterfield, N. H., and Thompson, Conn., 1737-1856; order to postmaster for money due United States from mail route #703, 1875. Membership certificate of Ephraim Mower in King Solomon Royal Arch Chapter, 1817.

DOUGLAS: Muster roll of Capt. Stephen Southworth's company, 1798.

DUDLEY: Upham papers consist of deeds of land in Reading and Dudley; papers of Joseph, Jabez, and Nathan Upham, 1718-1824; personal accounts and receipts to David Humphrey, town treasurer, 1807-17. Notebook of Dr. (?) Holman, taken while a medical student, 1827, 40 pp.; report for probate court in matter of distributing funds of the Dudley Indians, 1890.

GRAFTON: Record of new men in Continental Army, 1780.

HARDWICK: Membership certificates of Isaac Magown and Ebenezer Porry in the Mt. Zion Lodge A.F. & A.M., 1805, 1806.

HARVARD: Deed of Samuel Heywood to Samuel Heywood, Jr., 1741.

HOLDEN: Saw mill account book of Ezra Hastings, 1792-1829, 110 pp.; deed, John Estabrook to Andrew D. and Anna McFarland, 1841.

HOPEDALE: Letter from the Rev. Adin Ballou to Worcester Society of Antiquity, 1885.

HUBBARDSTON: Deeds of Jesse Partridge of Princeton, 1830-48.

LANCASTER: Record of enlistment in Continental Army, 1780; political letters in support of Caleb Strong while governor, 1812-13; deed of Barney Phelps, 1872; 174 epitaphs of old Lancaster Cemetery, 1877.

LEICESTER: Deed, Daniel Lynd to Stephen Maynard of Westboro, 1762; notice of state tax to Jonathan Livermore, 1775; assessor's notice to Livermore for collection of taxes, 1776, also receipts for taxes collected in part, 1776-78; promissory note, Jonathan Woodward to John Southgate, 1797; appointment of Livermore as administrator, 1805; account book of Peter Sylvester, 1782-1804, and his notebook, 1803-4; writs signed by William Henshaw, justice of the peace, 1791-1811 and one against Samuel Watson, 1836; letters Elisha Sylvester, Lyons, N. Y., to his brother Peter, 1801-27; bills of dry goods, Alpheus Smith, 1819-21; 200 letters and papers of the Rev. Samuel May, 1834-99; mortgage of land and buildings and schedule of machinery in woolen mill in Leicester by John Marland, Boston, 1840; address made at Leicester Academy, 1872.

LUNENBURG: Epitaphs on cemetery stones, 17 pp. n. d.

MENDON: Genealogical album of Aldrich family and poetry of Miss Lois S. Aldrich, 1800-1830.

MILFORD: Muster roll of a Milford artillery company camped in Boston, 1814, 24 pp. Deed and note, Luke Kelley, to his brother Wing Kelley, 1803-6.

MILLBURY: School records of the Great Green Grass Hill School District, 1817-47, 140 pp.; personal letters of Samson Bixbye, 1825; writing book of Betsey Winter, 1818; arithmetic book of Moses H. and William Maynard, 1823; album of Elizabeth F. Knowlton, 1837-40; 2 paper mill account books of Samuel Torrey, 1847-49, 136 pp., 1851-54, 136 pp.; military orders to Moses Maynard to report for duty 1824; list of voters, 1879-80; inscription on stones in Millbury and Sutton burying grounds, n. d.

NEW BRAINTREE: Tailor's ledger of Joseph Newell, 1769-94, 76 pp.; general store ledger of Charles Prescott, 1822-37, 715 pp., and his journal 1825-27. Writ against Charles Trask of Boston, issued to Benjamin Hamilton, 1838.

NORTHBORO: Appointment of Isaac Davis as administrator of estate of John Broaden, 1808; arithmetic book of Horatio T. Carruth, 1821; receipts of Miss Charlotte Martin, (Mrs. Horatio T. Carruth), 1827.

NORTH BROOKFIELD: Letter from Thomas Snell to the Rev. Mr. James on births,

marriages and deaths in North Brookfield, 1848; record of the return of Ebenezer Newell's military company, 1877.

**OKHAM:** Reward of merit to Lucy Ann Fay, 1821. Papers of Keziah Fales, consist of personal bills of Lydia Fales, 1824-25; letter relative to pension from War Department, 1840 and various papers relating to application and extension of pensions, 1843-48. Deed of pew from James Dean, 1837; personal letter, S. H. Rideout, of Lowell, to Page Austin, 1839.

**OXFORD:** Business papers of Cady and Perry, 1843-64; tax receipt of Samuel Williams, 1859; letter to Church of Christ reporting controversy over Dr. Edwards, 1863, 16 pp.; arithmetic book of Naomi Gleason, n. d.

**PAXTON:** Deeds of land in Paxton, David Goodnow, 1780; David Sweetser et al., 1821; Adonijah Bartlet of Rutland, 1822; Moses Maynard, 1825; and Otis Peirce, 1861. Personal diary of Silas Bigelow, 1758-61; 36 pp.; appointment of Ezra Boynton as guardian, 1818; deed of a pew in First Parish to Samuel Peirce, 1836; family letters from Jonas Brooks, Chenango, N. Y., to Moses Maynard, 1838-41; note book recording deaths, Charles Boynton, 1841-99; a permit to drive cattle during epidemic, from Paxton to Worcester, 1860; Paxton History, 1899, 61 pp.

**PLTNSHAM:** Recommendation of Jeremiah Deans and Benjamin Ganson as innholders, 1773.

**PRINCETON:** Papers of the Dood family, mostly deeds for land in Princeton and Hubbardston, 1812-48; two medicinal recipes, 1820.

**ROYALSTON:** Arithmetic book of Lucy Mathews, 1812.

**RUTLAND:** Diary of Seth Metcalf, 1755-1807, 39 pp., (transcribed and published by the Historical Records Survey, 1939) and writs and actions of Seth Metcalf, 1767; muster roll of a military company, 1775; citation in matter probating will of Thomas Read, 1788; arithmetic book of Stafford Nerton, 1804; personal note of Fay and Davis, 1826; map of proprietors' lands drawn by Jonas Reed, 1834.

**SHREWSBURY:** Deed of pew in meetinghouse to Samuel Brigham, Marlboro, 1753; deed of land, Edward Wilson, Jr., 1757. Personal letters, Edward Flint to Dr. Austin Flint, 1792; blacksmith account book of Luke Upham 1802-36, 200 pp. General store accounts; ledger of a Shrewsbury company 1810-29, 250 pp. and its day book 1829-54, 169 pp.; day book of Samuel Haven, 1813-15, 150 pp.; 2 ledgers of E. H. Hemingway, 1815-16, 240 pp., 1824-26, 56 pp.; and 3 day books of Andrew Ward, 1822-33, 572 pp., 1823-24, 224 pp. and 1823-32, 480 pp., letter, L. S. Wheeler to daughter of Eunice Libby of South Boston, 1849.

**SPENCER:** Deed of land in Swanzev, from John Read, 1769; papers on remonstrance of extension of sewing machine patent to Elias Howe, correspondence and pamphlets, 7 items, 1868.

**STERLING:** Roper papers consist of deeds, accounts, and papers of Manassah, Silas, Ephraim, and Joseph Roper, 1739-63; deeds of land in Lancaster belonging to Thomas Burpee, and copy of his will, 1776; copy of land description of Wheeler property, n. d.

**SUTTON:** Deeds of land in Sutton from Enoch Kidder, Billerica, 1737, David Hall and Isaac Bernard, 1738; notice regarding interest on bond received from Major Ruggles and others, 1775; an address, To the Ladies by Joseph G. Hall, 1780; cash book of Isaac Dodge, Jr., 1805-10, 60 pp.; genealogical papers, general store account, and pass book of Warren Batchelder, 1854-63.

**TEMPLETON:** Deed of land in Framingham from Moses Larned, 1752; three agreements binding out sons of Moses Larned, Jr., to various persons, 1766-75;



personal diary of Moses Larned, 1781-90, 100 pp.; release of eight heirs of Moses Larned of their share in his estate to Thomas Larned of this town, 1799. Carpenter's account book of Silas Norcross, 1827-73, 61 pp., and 4 of his diaries, 1829-87.

UXBRIDGE: Receipt from Bezaliel Taft to Ebenezer Rosson for procuring a soldier for Continental Army, 1777. William Aldrich papers contain account book and ledger of sawing and labor, 1789-1819, 34 pp., record of lumber sold, 1803-11; and table of reduction of old and new money into specie. Copy and writing-book of Daniel Seagraves, 1845-48, and 13 vols. of his diary, 1851-87. Meat-market ledger, 1848-52, 529 pp.

WESTBORO: Deeds, plot plans, and papers of land in Shrewsbury and Westboro of John and Stephen Maynard, 1708-80; deeds of land in Westboro and Northboro of Isaac Davis and Stephen Maynard, 1780-89, and of Isaac Davis, 1800-1827. Copy of by-laws and list of members of a Boston club of which the Rev. Ebenezer Parkman was a member, 1722; letter of dismissal of the Rev. John Robinson as minister of Church of Christ in Yale College, and recommendations to the church in Westboro, 1788; vote of the town to call the Rev. John Robinson as minister, and other votes as to his salary, 1788; estate papers of Solomon Maynard, 1812; a book of poems and genealogical notes, 1829; correspondence and clippings relating to the case of the Rev. William Mitchell, pastor of the Congregational Church, 1883-84, 16 items.

WEST BOYLSTON: [Plympton family papers] including Jonathan and Jonathan, Jr., consisting of deeds in Medway, Medfield, Northboro, Boylston, West Boylston, Princeton, Shrewsbury, and Worcester; plot plans of land in Boylston; sheriff's writs; appointments as guardian; store accounts; and inventory of estate, 1776-1824. Arithmetic book of John Reid, Leicester Academy, 1791, and his liquor store day-book, 1807-14, 100 pp. Arithmetic book of Ward Merrifield, 1829-30. Minutes of plan of 2nd Precinct, n. d.

WESTMINSTER: Receipts of the following town treasurers: Samuel Jackson, 1740; Joseph Holden, 1751, Asa and Joseph Miller, 1756-1813. Guardian papers of William Steadman, 1756. In addition to these town papers there are 2 vols. of records of the Anti-Slavery Society of Northern Worcester County, 1835-43, 81 pp., and 1846-59, 64 pp. and 1 vol. of the Anti-Slavery Society, South Division, Worcester County, 1838-65. Other county papers consist of oaths taken before county commissioners by various officials, 1853-57; bail records of the commissioners of the First District Court of Southern Worcester County, 1870-71, 65 pp., and witness book, same court 1873-76, 9 pp. Witness book, Central District Court, 1876-80, 595 pp.

STATE [MASSACHUSETTS] PAPERS OUTSIDE WORCESTER COUNTY, 1663-1869. 300 items.

AMHERST: Letters of administration to Frederick Palmer for estate of Roland Burbank, West Springfield, 1845.

ANDOVER-HAVERHILL: Robie and Pevey papers consist of deeds, inventories and account books of estates in Andover, Haverhill, and Hampton, N. H., 1663-1823.

BOSTON: Journal of business undertakings and ventures of Thomas Ruck, 1713-22, 186 pp., together with 4 ledgers, 1714-22, approx. 140 pp. each, and a day book, 1718-22, 325 pp. Indenture between John and Jonathan Waldo on land and distillery apparatus, 1728; deed from David Colson, land in Boston, 1741; receipt book of Richard Devens, a Provincial Government store keeper at Boston, 1776-81, 180 pp.; receipt revenue tax on distillery of Robert Weir & Sons, signed by Jackson Johnson, collector, 1792; letters of Benjamin Bussey

## State Massachusetts Papers Outside Worcester County

on publication of books, 1795; and one religious letter from Tamison Howe, Boston, to Mrs. Chloe McLellan, Maine, 1804; appointment of Samuel Perry on the Amer. Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, 1859; and membership certificate of John D. Baldwin in the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, 1868.

CAMBRIDGE: Deposition of James Pemberton before Daniel Gookins and Thomas Danforth, 1673.

ENFIELD: Shoemaker's ledger of Lyman Rowland, 1815-41, 225 pp.

FALMOUTH: Account of bill due Andrew Cochrane from James Hurst, 1764.

FOXBORO: Certificate of marriage of Hosea Spaulding and Hannah Sumner, 1852, and copy of the bride's horoscope, cast by Samuel Sheffield.

FRAMINGHAM: Estate papers of Noah Eaton; deed, Noah Eaton to John Eaton of land in Framingham and Sudbury, 1767; household accounts and personal notes of Lydia B. Eaton, 1856-63, and her personal note book, 1865-67.

HINSDALE: Political memoranda (humorous) on untaxable property; extradition papers from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts, charging Moses Tyler with forgery, 1846.

HOLLISTON: Deed, John and Isaac Hill, land in Wrentham, 1745; letter from S. E. Daniels, Washington, D. C., to his sister Mrs. Olive Leland, Holliston, giving his impression of Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and Andrew Jackson, 1832.

HUDSON: Deeds of Alvin L. Maynard for land in Hudson, Marlboro, and Berlin, 1860-67.

KINGSTON: Writ for custody of Job Sylvester, of Hanover, 1783.

MARLBORO: Deed for land in Marlboro from Daniel Howe, 1774. Memorial to Charles Hudson born here, 1795, died in Lexington, 1870.

NEDWAY: Arithmetic book of Calvin Rockwood, 1824.

NEEDHAM: Fisher Battelle papers consist of 25 deeds and other papers of John and Nathaniel Fisher, 1723-88; 3 deeds of Ebenezer Battelle, 1761-67; will of Nathaniel Fisher, 1788; 51 deeds and other papers of George Fisher, 1790-1835; 6 papers of Jesse Smith, 1814-36, and 14 papers of Leonard Battelle, 1833-40.

NEWBURYPORT: 5 deeds and few legal papers of Jeremiah Sawyer for land in Newbury, 1791-1805; certificate of citizenship of Reuben Gerry [seaman], 1804; articles of agreement of schooner Manhattan signed by ship's crew for a cruise against enemies of America [privateer], 1812; account of William A. Lincoln of an adventure on a voyage from Newburyport to Cayenne, 1816-26, 44 pp.; current accounts of goods shipped on brig Jubilee, 1829 and on brig Scio, 1830; papers of G. T. B. Granger, 1831; account of cargo on Granger's brig Scio, 1832; account of disbursements for brig Scio at Cayenne, 1833; water color sketch of brig Jubilee, log of schooner Anti for voyage, 1839, attested protest of William Cheney, master of schooner Mawflower against perils of the sea, etc., on voyage from Paramaribo to Squam Harbor; and an account book of Cheney's, showing household expenses, 1822-51, 200 pp.

PALMER: Patent papers for saddle [improved harness] to Joseph Waite, 1869.

PEMBROKE: Summons for Josiah Barnabas to appear as witness, 1738; parchment manuscript of the act of the general court relative to alewife fisheries in town of Pembroke, signed by Thomas Cushman, 1771; genealogical notes on the Peregrine White family of Pembroke written by Sarah Bosworth, 1890.

PLYMOUTH: Membership certificate of W. A. Bannister in the Pilgrim Society, 1866.

READING: Deed from Kendall Bryant, Thomas Nichols, and Joseph Bancroft for land in Reading, 1726.

REHOBOTH: Deed of land in Rehoboth from Nathaniel Willmarth 1726/7.

ROWLEY: Deeds, Jonathan Clark to Moses Cooper, 1723-24; James Todd to Moses Cooper, 1727; Daniel Foster of Ipswich to Moses Cooper, 1736.

NEW ENGLAND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION, 1771-1897. Approx. 550 items.

CONNECTICUT. EAST WINDSOR: Agreement as to joint trade of Oliver Chapman and James Steel, 1781. ELLINGTON: copy and writing book of Oliver W. Steele, 1799. GRISWOLD: Collection of epitaphs by Benjamin Leonard, n. d. HALFTON: Miscellaneous receipts, mostly of the Burnham family, 1802-26. HARTFORD: Letters from George W. Harris, seed dealer and breeder of Swiss cattle, 1882-84. MYSIC: copy and writing book, Modelia Houche, n. d. NEW LONDON: Personal letters to Capt. Thomas Allyn, 1774-87; letters of Foster Swift to Lucretia Nichols, Oxford, relative to Swift genealogy, 1824; land grant in Michigan to Benjamin Smith, 1839; letters to E. H. Learned about tax on land in Ohio, 1840-45. PLAINFIELD: Commission of Elisha Parke as 4th sergeant in 1st Co., 21st Regt., 1798. POIFRET: Deeds and legal papers, mostly of Sawyer family, re land in Poifret, 1771-1840. WINDHAM: Saddler's license to Horace B. Hubbard, 1864. Windham County: Record book of the Peace Society of Windham County, 1826-39, 80 pp.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. CLAREMONT: Writ of attachment against Owen Fling, 1802. GILLMANTON: Writ of attachment against Samuel L. Avery, 1783. HILLSBORO: Friendship album, Carrie A. George, 1844-53. KEENE: Letters of Charles L. Putnam, 1828-49. NASHUA: Pension paper, Jerusha A. (Sawyer) Brigham, 1793; letters to Mrs. J. A. Sawyer in appreciation of her services as hospital matron, 1862-64. ROCKINGHAM: Deposition of Sarah Remick of Derry for a soldier's widow's pension, 1838. SANBORNTON: Deed, Josiah Miles to Stephen Hoage, land in Sandwich, 1791.

RHODE ISLAND. COVENTRY: Deed, John Day to Richard Weeks, 1753. PROVIDENCE: Expense account of a trip from Providence to Marietta, Ohio, 1795.

VERMONT. GRAFTON: Historical sketch of Grafton, by Parker Johnson, 1794-1874. WEST HAVEN: Genealogical notes and papers of Cutler family, collected about 1897. WHITTINGHAM: Selectmen's orders and receipts, 1803-36, 165 pp., and selectmen's notices and warnings to the highway surveyor, 1824-43; Vermont militia orders for muster at Whittingham, 1814-31; and typed copy of centennial exercises, 1880.



Miscellaneous Military Records

MILITARY papers not found in Part I under family collections, or in Part II under town papers, are listed herewith. War records prior to the Civil War comprise: 3 diaries of William Henshaw covering the French and Indian War, 1759, 52 pp., the Revolutionary War, 1776, 26 pp., and the Expedition to Rhode Island, 1778, 8 pp. Muster rolls of Capt. Benjamin Hasting's company and Asa Whitcomb's regiment (copy), 1776; Capt. Granger's minute-men in Colonel Warren's regiment, 1777, copied in 1853; Worcester artillery, 1825; and partial roll of unknown company, 1864. General orders and morning report of Capt. James R. Hanham's company of artillery stationed at Fort Columbus, now Fort Jay and Bedloe's Island, in New York Harbor, 1812-13. Papers relating to Fort Warren, Boston, including the list of officers and soldiers and the appointment of Lt. Eliphalet Holbrook, as major commandant, 1814. Commissions from Gov. Oliver Wolcott to Lathrop Clark as lieutenant and captain in 7th Company, 11th Regt., 1817-18; annual returns of Mass. Militia, 6th and 7th Divisions, 1819-31; notices to Calvin Lamb to report for duty at Worcester, Ware, and Charlton, 1821-28, and his appointment as quartermaster serg't. 4th Regt., 1st Brig., 6th Div., 1830; regimental orders of cavalry regt., 1st Brig., 6th Div., 1822; company orders of artillery to report for military duty at Worcester, 1827; militia reports and general orders, 1841; order to Lt. Waterman S. Warren to deliver company books to Captain Baker, signed by Col. Ebenezer Barnard, 1st Regt., 1st Brig., 26th Div., 1833; order book of 5th Brig., 3rd Div., 1844-56; commission of Edward Adams as corporal in 6th Company, 8th Regt., 5th Brig., 3rd Div., 1844; roster of M. V. M. 3rd Div., 1844-55; and of M. V. M. 5th Regt., 5th Brig., 1844-55; orders of Mass. Militia, 1858-61, including Worcester City Guards, 1859-61, and 3rd Bat. Rifles, 9th Regt., 1860; miscellaneous letters on military affairs, 1858. A Spanish orderly book of a Mexican officer [with translation and notes], 1847, 9 pp., and a power of attorney given by Harry Robbins to C. R. Sprague of Baltimore, Md., for collection of pay while serving in the Mexican War, 4th Regt., U. S. Artillery, 1848.

The Civil War era is represented by approximately 1,380 items. One group of papers relating to the recruiting office in Worcester, under Capt. J. M. Goodhue covers correspondence of superiors, vouchers, ration accounts, 1861; subsistence and recruiting accounts, 11th U. S. Inf. at Boston, 1863, with quarterly return of ordnance and ordnance stores, 1865; returns of ordnance and ordnance stores and blanks, 11th U. S. Inf. at Richmond, Virginia, 1866-69; clothing vouchers, 1868; auditor's report in return of Captain Goodhue, 11th U. S. Inf., 1869-70. There are also special orders, 15th Regt., M. V. M., 1861, 60 pp.; scrapbook of Maj. E. T. Raymond containing military and civil commissions and other papers, 1862-1910; guard report of Maj. F. G. Stiles, commander 42nd Regt., Vol. Inf., on board U. S. S. Shetucket, 1862-63; appointment of Lemuel Houghton in the Worcester State Guards, 1863, and of William H. Green as captain in the New York State Vol. Inf., 1862, and as colonel, in 1863; testimonials for service in the Civil War issued Maj. Frederick G. Stiles, Capt. George E. Barber, and Joseph P. Reed, 1870. The Burnside Association is represented by a cash book, 1875-1924, 97 pp.; treasurer's book, 1875-1924, 279 pp.; list of members and records of 36th

## Military Records

M. V. M., 1886-1924, 96 pp.; secretary's book, 1888-1924, 96 pp.

Papers of J. B. Knox, first lieutenant in 25th Regt., acting signal officer of detachment at Newbern, N. C.; correspondence and reports with various departments and officers concerning quartermaster's supplies, 1862-65; returns of quartermaster's property and stores, 1863-65; clothing camp and garrison equipment reports, 1863-65, at Georgetown, D. C.; ordnance accounts and stores, general and special orders at Georgetown, 1865. Muster-out rolls of Co. B, 3rd Bat. and 3rd Bat. Vol. of Worcester, July 1861; bills of Oscar R. Rand and N. P. Rankin to Confederate States for flour and bacon, 1861.

Arthur A. Goodell papers consist of muster rolls, orders, returns, and letters concerning widow's pension, 1861-1902. Diaries of unknown soldier, 1861, and of A. E. Stearns which concern life in a Confederate prison, 1864-65. Sample inspection of 3rd Div. Colored Troops, 1863; discharge papers of James Claffee, 1863 and Joseph M. Sampson, Worcester, 1865; cancelled order on Confederate States treasurer (\$94.00) signed by I. Bootan Hill, 1867; letters of Capt. A. H. Foster, Worcester, re military affairs. Three Confederate papers consist of the enlistment of Aaron W. Ridenhour of North Carolina in North Carolina troops, given at Roanoke Island, 1862; a facsimile of the Act of Secession of South Carolina, 1860, and a facsimile of a bail bond of Jefferson Davis, 1867. A much later volume contains the constitution by-laws and lists of membership in the Women's Association of the 36th Mass. Vols., 1895-1924, 76 pp.

## Part IV.

Worcester Natural History Society Collection

WORCESTER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY COLLECTION, 1829-1909. 1,777 items.

Manuscript material contains much of value in the closely interwoven history of the many associations and societies which began in 1829 and finally resulted in the survival of the original educational purpose and the rather unusual side issue, the huge Worcester Free Public Library. The collection begins with the record of the organization of the Worcester Lyceum in 1829, and is followed by the organization records of the Young Men's Rhetorical Society in 1849. The Young Men's Library Association was formed in 1853. In 1854 the Natural History Department of the Library Association was started by the Rev. Edward Everett Hale. There was a temporary merger of the Rhetorical Society and Library Association in 1855. The Lyceum joined with the Library Association after the withdrawal of the Rhetorical Society in 1856 under a new name, the Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Society. The libraries accumulated by all these societies were added to the private



collection of Dr. John Green to become the nucleus of the Worcester Free Public Library, in 1856. This left the Natural History Department the major interest of the latest merger, which continued to flourish to the extent that in 1884 the name was changed to the Worcester Natural History Society. In 1886, a summer camp for nature study was established on the shore of Lake Quinsigamond.

The growth of the foregoing organizations may be traced through the following records: Record of organization meeting, Worcester Lyceum, 1829, 2 pp. and catalogue of its members, 1830, 5 pp. Constitution and secretary's book, Worcester Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1849, 112 pp. Treasurer's books, Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1849-53, 36 pp., 1853-74, 48 pp. Secretary's records; Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1850-53, 200 pp., and 2 vols., 1853-69, 372 and 220 pp. Cash books and membership lists of the Young Men's Christian Association, 1852-53; the Worcester Lyceum and Library Association, 1854-56; the Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association, 1880-83; and the Worcester Natural History Society, 1883, 104 pp. Record of meetings, Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1852-54, 160 pp., Organization records of the Natural History Department of the Young Men's Library Association, 1854-62, 100 pp., and treasurer's account, 1856-63. Record of attendance and report of the trustees' meetings of the Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1855-57, 36 pp. Curator's book, department of ichthyology. Natural History Department of Young Men's Library Association, 1859. Treasurer's book, Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association, 1866-82, 160 pp. General expense accounts, Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association, 1866-68. Record of meetings, Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1869-78. Inventory, Library of Young Men's Rhetorical Society, October 9, 1873, 328 pp. Record of attendance of gatherings and anniversaries, Young Men's Rhetorical Society, 1873-99. Treasurer's book, Worcester Natural History Society, 1887-90, Natural History Park Account, 1887-90. Journal and cash account, Natural History Society, 1891-1909, 178 pp.

Some of the members of these societies were authorities on botany and ornithology. A number of papers were composed by them and are on file here. Article on history of botany, by Jonathan French, 1840, 41 pp., 22 copies of Rhetorical Gazette, handwritten, compiled monthly by members of the society, 1851-67. Sixteen copies of The Vine, articles written semi-monthly by members of the society, 1851-56. Article on the blue jay by J. C. Williams, 1855. Article on the red wing oriole, by C. H. Mosely, 1856. Essays by William A. Smith, of Natural History Society: Voice of Birds, 27 pp. Something about Birds' Nests, 50 pp.; Rapacious Birds, 25 pp.; Eagles (white and baldhead), 1863, 16 pp. Structure of Rapacious Birds, 1884, 61 pp.; and Articles on Birds, 1884. List of plants found in Webster Lake, 1864. List of reptiles in collection of Worcester Natural History Society, Oct. 1873, 155 specimens listed. Article on frogs, by John H. Garnier, Lucknow, Ontario, 1878. Offer from J. L. S. Thompson of Lancaster presenting Worcester Natural History Society his collection of 150 mounted birds, 1883. Poleoptera of United States and Canada by Otto R. Guenther, 6 books, 1883, 80 pp. each. Article on rapacious birds, by Otto Guenther, 1884.

Class records cover: List of classes and subjects studied at Natural History Society, winter of 1886-87, 40 pp. Record of classes in the following subjects: microscopy, 1886; comparative anatomy, 1886; zoology, 1886;

## Worcester Natural History Society Collection

taxidermy, 1886; botany, 1886; geology, 1886; ornithology, 1886; mollusca, 1886. Report of meetings for study of mineralogy, 1889-91. Lecture given before Worcester Lyceum, by the Hon. Edward D. Bangs, n. d. General correspondence is contained in 2 folders, 1879-82, 1855-64; while that of the Department of Young Men's Library Association is dated 1855-63; and that of the Natural History Society runs from 1880-90.

The Natural History Society Camp Records comprise: Register, Natural History Park, 1886-1907, 100 pp., 1907-8, 60 pp.; names and residences of people interested in the Camp, 1889-90, 32 pp.; register of the camp, 1890; ledger of campus, 1890; list of boarders at the camp, 1890; quartermaster's inventory, 1891; correspondence, 1890-92.

Manuscripts on Exhibition

1707.  
REDEWAY, John. To John Hunt, deed of ten acres of land in Rehoboth.
1734.  
HUNTING, John of Dedham. To John Fisher of Needham, deed of land in Walpole.
1768.  
MOORE, Willard. Appointment as ensign in Military Company of Paxton, Mass., signed by Gov. Francis Bernard.
1775.  
BRITISH Troops. Bill for damages done on return from Concord, amounting to one hundred twenty-five pounds. Claimant unknown.
1777.  
BURGOYNE, John Esq. Proclamation of John Burgoyne Esq. given at Fort Edward.
1783.  
WHITE, Eleazer of Worcester. Fine for not going into the army when drafted.
1783.  
HAMMOND, Elijah. Discharge papers with signature of George Washington.
1796.  
HENSCHAW, William, Leicester. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. Samuel Adams.
1801.  
6th Mass. Turnpike Corp. Stock share certificate.
1810.  
WOOD, Annariah. Notice of election as ensign in 1st Mass. Regt., signed by Gov. Elbridge Gerry.
1815.  
HOWLAND, Southworth, of Brookfield. Receipt for tax on chaise.
1818.  
GARDNER, Stephen. Certificate for membership in Worcester Agricultural Society.
- PAINE, Nathaniel. Stock certificate issued for one share of stock in Worcester bank.
- SHAW, Justice Samuel. Personal letter to his brother John H. Shaw of Barnstable.
- WALDO, Hon. Daniel. Admission papers into the Worcester Agricultural Society.
1819.  
HENSCHAW, William, of Leicester. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. John Brooks.
- LONGLEY, James. Membership certificate in Worcester Agricultural Society.
- 1825-37.  
WORKMAN, Dr. William. Physician's day book, 309 pp.
1829.  
EMERSON, Nathaniel of Oxford. Notice of election as lieutenant in 5th Mass. Regt., signed by Gov. Levi Lincoln.
- MATHEWS, William. Signed deed of 8 slaves to a master in equity.
1830.  
BLACKSTONE Canal Co. Cargo account of the Washington and the Lafayette, 100 pp.
- PAINE, W. R. Stock Certificate issued for one share in Blackstone Canal Co.
1835.  
WASHBURN, Ichabod. Membership certificate in Worcester Fire Department.

## Appendix

1838.  
BRIGHAM, Thomas of Berlin. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. Edward Everett.
1839.  
MILITIA. Record of the 2nd Inf., 1st Brig., 6th Div., Mass.
1845.  
BRIGHAM, Thomas of Berlin. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. George N. Briggs.
1848.  
DENNY, Edward W. Diploma from Worcester County Mechanics' Association for silk winder.
1850.  
BANCROFT, George of New York. Letter enclosing autograph of William Cullen Bryant.  
MILLER, H. W. Record of daily sales in his hardware store, 80 pp.
1851.  
CHAFFIN, J. E., Holden. A wood measurer's certificate for load of wood.  
KNOWLTON, John S. C. Membership certificate in Worcester County Mechanics' Association.
1852.  
BRIGHAM, Thomas of Northboro. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. George S. Boutwell.
1853.  
GOUGH, John B. Letter regretting his inability to speak at meeting in Worcester.
1855.  
ALLEN, Ethan. British patent granted for improved breach loading fire-arm.  
AMERICAN Party. One vol. (scrapbook) material and manuscripts relating to forming the American Party (Know Nothing Party) in Worcester, with later material on American Protective Association.  
EALLES, William. Premium for milch cow from U. S. Agricultural Society.
- 1856-57.  
KANSAS-Aid. List of subscriptions, 1 Vol., 50 pp.
1857.  
BUCK, James A. Order for twenty-five dollars to be paid to him, signed by Jefferson Davis.  
RUSSELL, George W. Certificate of ownership of one share of stock in Worcester Agricultural Library.
1858.  
RUSSELL, George W. Stock certificate for three shares of stock in Worcester Machine Shop Co.
1859.  
AMERICAN slavery. Pledge of Souther family to one another to aid in the cause of the suppression of American slavery. Pledge made December at 11:45 A. M., the time of the execution of John Brown.
1861.  
MILITIA. Return of election of officers of Co. B., 5th Brig., 3rd Div., Mass.  
SUMNER, U. S. Senator Charles. Letter written from Boston.
1862.  
ROBERT, F. C. Bank accounts of Bank of Commerce, Newbern, N. C.



1862.

SPRAGUE, A. B. R. Letter to Mr. Boyden written from headquarters of Mass. Regt., at Roanoke Island, announcing victory of battle of Roanoke.

1863.

TOLMAN, A. Stock certificate for one share of stock in Worcester Horse Rail Road Co.

1864.

MOTT, Abner R. and Sophrania Gibbs, of Ware. Marriage certificate.

1865.

BALL, Phineas of Worcester. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. John A. Andrew.

1866-74.

CIVIL War. Record of committee appointed to secure subscriptions for erection of monument to the Worcester men killed during Civil War, 20 pp.

1866.

VINCENT, Alfred. British patents granted for improvement for spinning yarn. WORCESTER High School. Petition for longer vacation for students, signed by 88 parents, 7 guardians, 5 pp.

1867.

GOODELL, A. A. Commission as Colonel and as brigadier general by brevet, for services in the Civil War, signed by President Andrew Johnson.  
GREEN, William N., Jr. Commission as Colonel by brevet in 103rd N. Y. Vol., for services in the Civil War, signed by President Andrew Johnson.

1868.

HOWE, Julia Ward. Letter to Wendell Phillips, concerning women's suffrage.

PARKMAN, Francis. Letter relative to sending copy of a book.

1870.

BARBER, Capt. George E. Testimonials for service in the Civil War.

REED, Joseph F. Testimonials for service in the Civil War.

STILES, Major Frederick G. Testimonials for service in the Civil War.

1889.

HOAR, Senator George F. Letter to Thomas A. Dickinson, Worcester, advising Dickinson that he has forwarded his letters to the Smithsonian Institute.

1892.

GRIDER, Rufus. Four full size drawings of powder horns, all framed, drawn by Rufus Grider. Powder horn of John Darlon of Northampton together with his history, drawn 1893; powder horn of Josiah Benton of Tolland, Conn., 1775; powder horn of John Stark of New Hampshire, n. d.; powder horn of General Israel of Connecticut, n. d.

1903.

BATES, Governor John L. of Mass. Letter to M. A. Maynard, regretting his inability to address G. A. R. Post #10.

1905.

SALISBURY, Stephen. Letter to Frank E. Williamson, thanking him for album of photographs of twelve buildings in which Mr. Salisbury is interested.

1906.

DRAPER, Congressman William F. Letter written from Washington to M. A. Maynard, regretting his inability to speak before G. A. R. Post #10.

## Appendix

1906.  
 LODGE, Senator Henry Cabot. Letter to L. A. Maynard, regretting his inability to attend Post #10 Memorial Day exercises.
1909.  
 BARTON, Clara. Letter to Rev. Percy H. Epler, Worcester, regarding article written about her by Epler.  
 CRANE, Senator W. N. of Washington. Personal letter to Ellery B. Crane.
1915.  
 DIMMICK, Charles S. of Worcester. Appointment as justice of peace, signed by Gov. David I. Walsh.
1933.  
 HOOVER, Herbert. Letter to Mrs. W. B. Warren, appreciation of friendship.
- N.D.  
 GOODMILL, Arthur A. Appointment as Lieutenant Colonel, 36th Regt., Mass. Vol., signed by Gov. John A. Andrew.  
 WARD, Sen. Artemus. Tavern bill for two weeks board at Oliver Cromwell's Head Tavern, Boston.  
 MARLBORO Hotel. Bill of fare.  
 SIMS, Thomas. Autograph of Thomas Sims, a fugitive slave. Sims was a celebrated case under the Fugitive Slave Law.  
 WEBSTER, Daniel. His autograph on envelope.

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Cities and towns, unless otherwise designated,  
refer to those in Massachusetts

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Note: Except where noted, all volumes are published at the state headquarters of the Historical Records Survey, Sharp School, Pinckney & Anderson Streets, Boston, Mass.

Abstract and Index of the Records of the Inferiour Court of Pleas,  
(Suffolk County Court) Held at Boston, 1680-1698, (iii, 224 pp.,  
min., 1940).

American Portraits, 1620-1825, Found in Massachusetts, 2 vols., (iv,  
254 pp. and 318 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).

American Portraits, 1645-1850, Found in Maine, 1 vol., (90 pp., min.,  
1941).

Brief History of the Town of Braintree in Massachusetts, 1640-1940,  
compiled and written for the Tercentenary Committee, Marion Sophia  
Arnold, ed., (64 pp., Boston, Thomas Todd Co., 1940).

Calendar of the General Henry Knox Papers in the Boston Public Library,  
(ii, 19 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).

Calendar of the Letters of Charles Robert Darwin to Asa Gray, (vii,  
148 pp., mult. dupl., December, 1939).

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(v, 165 pp., min., 1940).

Diary and Journal, 1755-1807, of Seth Metcalf, (iii, 31 pp., mult. dupl.,  
October, 1939).

Description of the Manuscript Collections of the Massachusetts Diocesan  
Library, (ii, 81 pp., mult. dupl., February, 1939).

Guide to Manuscript Depositories in Massachusetts, (ii, 160 pp., min.,  
September, 1939).

Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Worcester Historical Society,  
(iii, 56 pp., min., October, 1941).

Index to the Hampshire Gazette, 1786-1937, 3 vols., (vii, 213, 217, and  
295 pp., min., May, 1939).

Index to the Proclamations of Massachusetts, 1620-1936, 2 vols., (xvii,  
200 and 153 pp., min., April, 1937).

Inventory to the County Archives of Massachusetts, No. 5, Essex County,  
(ii, 370 pp., min., December, 1937).

Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts, (Series)  
No. 6 Franklin County

Vol. I Ashfield, (ii, 108 pp., min., 1940).

Vol. II Bernardston, (iii, 90 pp., min., 1941).

Vol. III Buckland, (ii, 74 pp., min., 1940).

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Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts, (Cont'd)

No. 7 Hampden County

Vol. I Agawan, (iii, 74 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. V Chicopee, (xi, 296 pp., mult., dupl., and mim.,  
October, 1939).

No. 10 Middlesex County

Vol. V Ayer, (iii, 150 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Vol. XXIX Maynard, (iii, 149 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 11 Norfolk County

Vol. I Avon (ii, 83 pp., mult., dupl., May 1939).

Vol. II Bellingham, (ii, 76 pp., mult., dupl., August, 1939).

Vol. IV Brookline, (v, 348 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

Vol. XI Holbrook, (iii, 179 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 13 Suffolk County

Vol. I, Part 5 Boston, (v, 356 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

No. 14 Worcester County

Vol. II Athol, (iii, 232 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Vol. III Auburn, (iii, 89 pp., mim., February, 1940).

Vol. IV Barre, (iii, 132 pp., mim., 1940).

Vol. V Berlin, (iii, 108 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. XI Clinton, (iii, 117 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Note: The following are reprints of the sketches of history and government for use in the respective public schools of the town concerned. Since they duplicate material already included in the respective city or town inventories, these reprints are not distributed separately to official depositories of Historical Records Survey publications.

Sketch of History and Government, (reprints for use of public schools)

No. 6 Franklin County

Vol. I Ashfield, (iii, 48 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. III Buckland, (ii, 36 pp., mim., 1940).

No. 11 Norfolk County

Vol. IV Brookline, (ii, 74 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

Vol. XI Holbrook, (iii, 54 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 14 Worcester County

Vol. IV Barre, (ii, 45 pp., mim., 1940).









